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POLL RESULTS

Do you support the U.S. military's plan to use Tinian as a firing range?

Yes 104

No 86

No opinion 7

Sunday, August 01, 2010

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PSS billed for ghost water accounts

» **CUC agrees to settle tens of thousands of dollars through MOA**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Board of Education has discovered that the Commonwealth

Utilities Corp. has been billing the Public School System for tens of thousands of dollars based on non-existing water meters.



Guerrero

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DPL nixes mayor's flea market idea

The Department of Public Lands has officially denied the request of Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores to use the Garapan Fishing Base as venue for its proposed community market.

Flores told *Saipan Tribune* that they only received the July 28 letter last Friday. "I am very displeased. It's such a good idea but they don't want it. This is unfortunate," he said.

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Autonomous agencies now owe Fund \$30M

» **Trustees to form task force committee to run after receivables**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Autonomous government agencies now owe the Retirement Fund a total of \$30.1 million in unpaid employer contributions. The Fund's board of

trustees will soon create a task force to closely monitor these agencies' payments.

To date, the Public School System has the highest unpaid obligation, totaling \$17.6 million—an amount that

See AUTONOMOUS on Page 4



FOR PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

Visiting students of the Japan-based Sanpo-en International Cultural Exchange Association and CNMI residents form a human chain at the beach and in the waters behind the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel in Chalan Kanoa to float 300 Japanese paper lanterns into the open sea for peace and friendship on Friday night. Inset shows Aprilleen Sablan, an incoming freshman at Marianas High School, preparing to pass on one lantern at a time.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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200-400 Marines to train on Tinian 12 times a year

ON THE NET

» **Final EIS under CNMI review**

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Live-fire training ranges on Tinian

would be able to support the required training of 200 to 400 U.S. Marines on Tinian "within a one-week period, 12 times a year" and with an estimated

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FTC wants Van der Maas to respond to subpoena

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Federal Trade Commission has asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to compel businessman Erick Van der Maas to comply with the FTC's subpoena in connection with its lawsuit in Illinois against several corporations and individuals for alleged deceptive and abusive telemarketing practices.

FTC, through counsels Steven M. Wernikoff and assistant U.S. attorneys Mikel W. Schwab and Jessica F. Cruz, said the com-

mission issued on June 16, 2010 a subpoena requesting Van der Maas to produce documents, information, or objects or to permit inspection of premises.

The lawyers said the subpoena requested production of "all documents relating to Asia Pacific Telecom, Inc.," one of the defendants in the lawsuit filed in Illinois.

"As of the date of filing this motion, Mr. Van der Maas has not provided any substantive response to the subpoena," the FTC lawyers said.

By failing to respond to the subpoena or provide any adequate excuses for doing so, Van der Maas is in violation of a court's order, the lawyer said.

They noted that some of the documents sought in the subpoena are readily available via the Internet from anywhere in

the world.

"Mr. Van der Maas has not produced these or any other documents responsive to the subpoena, and has otherwise failed to comply with the subpoena," the FTC counsels said.

Van der Maas had proposed a call center on Saipan, called We Manage Call Inc. The company purchased the former Nauru Building in Susupe and renamed it Marianas Business Plaza.

The FTC lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois has named Asia Pacific Telecom Inc., Repo B.V., SBN Peripherals Inc., Johan Hendrik Smit Duyzentkunst, and Janneke Bakker-Smit Duyzentkunst as defendants.

FTC alleged that the defendants sell a telemarketing service that delivers prerecorded voice messages through telephone calls and that in the course of telemarketing, the defendants made false and misleading statements to induce consumers to purchase products and services.

Rota fishing bill heads to governor

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

On an 8-0 vote, the Senate passed on Thursday a bill seeking to lift restrictions on traditional, non-commercial net fishing on Rota.

House Bill 17-33, House Draft 1 now heads to the governor for action.

Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), author of the HB 17-33, said yesterday that the Senate's approval of her bill is "just a step away until we can begin seeing our people of Rota using traditional method of fishing which would certainly augment their subsistence living, considering the high costs of goods on Rota."

"Because of its significant impact on the people of Rota, I hope and pray that upon its transmittal to the governor and lieutenant governor, the bill is immediately signed into law," Santos told *Saipan Tribune*.

HB 17-33 seeks to amend section 3 of Public Law 12-14, or the Fair Fishing Act of 2000, to clarify that such regulations

do not restrict the rights of persons to engage in non-commercial net fishing.

The bill also seeks to ensure that the definition of "non-traditional fishing methods" is not misinterpreted to include non-commercial net fishing.

Under Santos' bill, net fishing on Rota is allowed, provided that the nets are at least 2 inches.

The allowed fishing nets on Rota include throw nets or *talaya*, drag nets or *chenchulun lagua*, surround nets or *chenchulun umesugon*, or trap nets or *chenchulun managanag*.

Non-commercial fishing means fishing for personal or immediate family use, and that any sales or distribution beyond one's immediate family is a violation of law, the bill states.

Under the bill, the first violation is punishable by a \$200 fine, the second violation, \$400, and the third violation, up to \$1,000 fine.

Any subsequent violations will be punishable by up to \$1,000 fine and up to 10 days in jail.

3rd suspect in AMPRO site burglary gets 2-day sentence

The Superior Court has sentenced to two days in prison the third suspect in a burglary case at a hazardous explosive removal project site in Marpi.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced James Sanchez to one year in prison, all suspended except for two days, with credit for the two days he had already served in jail.

Sanchez pleaded guilty to criminal mischief as part of a plea bargain.

Wiseman placed the 39-year-old Sanchez on one year of supervised probation and required him to pay restitution and to perform 50 hours

of community service.

The case came about after Sanchez, Ray Anthony Ayuyu, and Matthew Igisaia entered AMPRO's project site in Marpi on July 12, 2009, and stole used shell casings.

Police said the three later confessed that they sold the stolen scrap metals to a recycling plant.

Ayuyu and Igisaia had already pleaded guilty to criminal trespass and were subsequently sentenced to 90 days, all suspended except for one day, with credit for the one day they had already served in jail. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Given the government's tight budget, acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos said there has to be a reassessment of the Commonwealth Election Commission's estimate that some \$128,000 will be needed for the Nov. 2 election.

He said there is only one position to be voted on—that of the CNMI's non-voting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

CNMI voters will also vote

Inos: Delegate election need not cost \$128,000

on at least three initiatives; the third one passed the Legislature only on Thursday and is expected to be transmitted to the Election Commission in time for the Aug. 4 deadline.

"I need to call the Election Commission, and need to discuss with the Legislature. The level of funding is something that should be reviewed and revisited. This is an election for one office—the U.S. delegate, and possibly two or three initia-

tives. Because of that, the question comes up: Do we really need eight or 10 polling places?" Inos said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

He said the \$128,000 estimate given by the Election Commission includes "direct costs" to the commission.

Inos, a former Finance secretary, said there are other costs, including police escorts and transportation of ballots.

He said with some \$23 mil-

lion in projected operating deficit for the first nine months of Fiscal Year 2010 alone, spending \$128,000 for the election of only one office will further hurt the government's finances.

"There's no new source [of funding] but once we pin it down in terms of what the maximum amount we would need, and not in the form of a regular general election, then we're in a better position to figure out how to fund it," he added.

The Election Commission estimates the entire election to cost \$128,000, which covers logistics and operational expenditures, including public education for two legislative initiatives that have so far been transmitted to the commission. The commission estimates spending \$40,000 on public education for each initiative.

Funding for the election can come from the administration's reprogramming of

funds, or from the Legislature's re-appropriation.

Some lawmakers said the Election Commission should have long re-evaluated the costs of holding elections.

They pointed to the conduct of the November 2009 general and runoff elections. For example, the Election Commission hired a helicopter for \$11,000 just to get the votes of four Agrihan residents during the Nov. 23 runoff polls.

Other lawmakers said funding can be budgeted under the FY 2011 budget.

Workers' group appeals to Senate committee to support improved status for guest workers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

United Workers Movement president Rabby Syed has appealed to members of the Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies to support long-term U.S. status and a pathway to citizenship for guest workers.

In his statement submitted to Senate committee chair Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider, Syed also urged CNMI leaders, indigenous residents, and other U.S. citizens to support improved immigration status for long-term alien workers.

"We have grown to love the CNMI during the course of our many years on these islands. Our families and friends are here. Our home is here. We have dedicated our lives to building and developing this great Commonwealth, and we, too, are your constituents," he said.

Syed said for the sake of their families, the workforce,

and the economic recovery of the CNMI, they appeal to the committee to support their request to the U.S. Congress for long-term status and a pathway to citizenship.

The group, along with many other organizations and individuals, began circulating a petition

in 2009 to express the views of the CNMI's foreign workers and their supporters on the subject of long-term status.

Syed said the petition, which was submitted to the U.S. Congress, was signed by more than 7,000 persons, including many foreign work-

ers, indigenous residents, and other U.S. citizens.

Syed said the petition described who they are, what they hope for, and their hopes for their children.

"We belong to churches and social groups; we volunteer in islandwide cleanups and in our children's schools. Many of us have children who serve

in the U.S. Armed Forces. We are valuable workers and law-abiding, contributing members of our island home," said Syed, quoting the petition.

He said granting U.S. permanent residency and a pathway to citizenship to legal nonresidents would ensure that families would not be split apart, businesses would benefit from a

stable labor pool of skilled and reliable workers, and the economy would recover.

The Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies has been holding public hearings on the long-term status of alien workers in the CNMI. Its chairman, Sen. Hofschneider, is also the Senate Vice President.

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3 House panels recommend passage of 6 bills

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Three House standing committees have recommended the passage of five House bills and one Senate bill, which are expected to be voted on in tomorrow's House session.

The House Committee on Natural Resources, chaired by Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), recommends the passage of House Bill 17-61, HB 17-63, and Senate Bill 17-28.

HB 17-61, which Santos introduced, seeks to eliminate fees for the maintenance of parcels of public land.

The Natural Resources Committee said residential owners maintain small parcels of public land adjacent

to their property in order to keep their residential area free of unwanted rodents, keep their properties aesthetically appealing, and to safeguard their homes and families from individuals with bad intentions and who might be lurking behind overgrown vegetation.

The committee agreed that when landowners are preserving and protecting the public land for public benefit and to safeguard their property and the welfare of their families, these individuals should not be charged rent for maintaining the public land.

HB 17-63, also introduced by Santos, imposes a six-month deadline for private property taken under eminent domain to be properly processed and

legally consummated.

Eminent domain is the right of the CNMI government to condemn private property for public use or purposes, and to appropriate the ownership and possession of such property for such public use upon paying the owner a just compensation to be ascertained according to law.

SB 17-28, co-sponsored by Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Saipan), seeks to designate the House of Taga Park on Tinian as a Commonwealth historical site.

The House Committee on Health and Welfare, chaired by Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), recommends passage of HB 17-34, in the form of HB 17-34, House Draft 1.

Introduced by Santos, the bill seeks to amend subsection 2204(b) of Section 3 of Public Law 15-105 regarding the Health Care Professions Licensing Board.

Iguel's committee also recommends passage of SB 17-10, Senate Substitute 1, which seeks to establish

a population-based cancer registry in the CNMI. Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) introduced the bill.

Rep. Rafael Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, meanwhile, recommends passage of Rep. Stanley Torres's (Ind-Saipan) HB 17-52.

HB 17-52, or the "Expungement Act of 2010," seeks to expunge the criminal records of certain individuals years after their conviction.

AUTONOMOUS

From Page 1

educational officials admitted is not funded in their budget.

The Northern Marianas College comes second with a debt of \$6.1 million, while the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is third, with a total obligation of \$3.3 million.

Fund records also indicate that the Tinian Municipal Treasury owe the Fund \$2.1 million; the Marianas Visitors Authority, \$675,292; the Commonwealth Ports Authority, \$130,089 debt; and Department of Public Lands, \$101,341.

Saipan Tribune learned that a large bulk of these agencies' debt with the Fund is a result of changes in the law that lowered the employer's contribution rate from 36 percent to 11 percent.

The board of trustees had earlier warned delinquent agencies of the possibility of taking these long-overdue accounts to court to pursue collection.

In its latest report to the board of trustees, the Fund management said it is aggressively monitoring the movement of all outstanding receivables. In fact, plans are now being finalized, including establishing a task force committee to run after these receivables.

Among the functions of the committee is to schedule a meeting with these agencies to work out a payment plan and periodically sending them a statement of accounts through the Fund's in-house legal counsel.

Saipan Tribune learned that some

autonomous agencies like DPL has been working closely with the Fund on its unpaid obligation, preventing the total unpaid employer's contribution from spiking each month.

Fund records also indicate that, besides autonomous agencies, the CNMI government's unpaid employer contribution now totals \$233 million as of May 31, 2010.

The combined unpaid contribution for the CNMI government and the autonomous agencies is \$263 million as of May this year.

Saipan Tribune learned that the central government's \$233 million unpaid obligation is composed of:

- Current unpaid employer contributions, \$168.4 million;
- 25 percent interest penalty, \$45 million;
- CNMI special annuity, \$385,942;
- Early retirement bonus, \$3.3 million;
- CNMI appropriation, \$15 million;
- Other prior service, \$780,733; and
- Due from general fund, \$6,539.

Starting October, the CNMI government will begin paying the 30 percent employer contribution rate to the Fund to satisfy a court judgment in June 2009.

The passage of the pension obligation bond and the placing of the legislative initiative on the November ballot are factors that would help address the government's obligation to the Fund.

Under the pension obligation bond, the government could float a bond of up to \$200 million to pay for its unpaid obligation to the retirement program.

PSS

From Page 1

To settle the dispute, the two have inked a memorandum of agreement to settle the disputed amount by offsetting it from future PSS bills.

BOE fiscal and personnel committee chair Herman T. Guerrero said that one particular example of a ghost account was a non-existent water meter at Hopwood Junior High School, which was being billed by over \$10,000 monthly by CUC.

The school, according to CUC, has two water meters and one is being charged approximately \$10,000 every month.

"They continuously billed us with that ghost water account in Hopwood. They say there is another meter for that account...but nobody can't find and justify where it is. So most likely, we've been paying for this non-existent water meter for several years," said Guerrero on Friday.

He declined, however, to disclose the total estimated amount billed to PSS

from these ghost accounts.

PSS finance director Richard Waldo confirmed that "mistaken accounts" were also discovered in many other schools besides Hopwood.

"Although many of them involve minimal amounts...when you add them up, it's big help for PSS," said Waldo, adding it was CUC that offered to settle the "mistaken accounts or ghost accounts" through the memorandum of agreement.

Waldo refused to disclose the disputed amount but said it runs in thousands of dollars.

Guerrero said the MOA is now being finalized by PSS' legal counsel for CUC's signature.

Saipan Tribune learned that PSS' water and power consumption for the whole year amounts to \$4 million and education officials believe that a significant portion of this amount are overcharges due to ghost accounts and unaddressed leaks in many schools.

Waldo said public schools are now using smart water meters. However, he is convinced that many of the installed

water meters are defective, based on the billings per school.

"We have a small campus being charged a huge amount...and we believe that it's inaccurate billing. Our schools have been asked to closely monitor their water and power consumption and they're doing well in conservation efforts," said Waldo.

Guerrero said PSS is doing its best to pay its obligations, including CUC.

"We're progressing in paying our bills... and what we need is an accurate billing for our consumption. With this MOA, any future liabilities is also waived," said Guerrero.

As of last week, PSS has paid in full its obligation to CUC and will start the new school with fresh accounts, Waldo said.

He said the Department of Finance made its recent payment last week, amounting to about \$350,000.

For this fiscal year, PSS has reprogrammed \$1.4 million from federal monies to pay for power and water obligations. The rest are paid by the local government through PSS budget allotments.

MARINES

From Page 1

over 3 million rounds of ammunition expended annually, according to the massive Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The thousands of pages of documents are now being reviewed by CNMI officials.

The multi-volume Final EIS details the U.S. Department of Defense's buildup plans and analyses of the buildup's impacts on Guam and the CNMI.

It estimates that civilian use and access to and through the range training area would be affected approximately 12 to 16 weeks per year.

The limit of restrictions would depend on the training uses scheduled.

The Final EIS details the development and construction of facilities and infrastructure to support the relocation from Okinawa to Guam of some 8,600 Marines and their 9,000 dependents, as well as the construction of facilities and infrastructure to support training and operations on Guam and Tinian for the relocated Marines.

Because training ranges on Guam are not enough, Tinian lands will have to be used.

If the plan materializes, Tinian would be the largest training range for Marines within the Marianas, on over

15,300 acres completely on Defense Department-leased property.

The northern two-thirds of Tinian public lands are leased by the Defense Department.

The military-leased property already has existing battalion level non-live fire training areas, but the military plans to develop four live-fire training ranges.

These include a platoon battle course, an automated combat pistol/military police firearms qualification course, rifle known distance range, and a field firing range.

"The existing training capabilities on Tinian would be expanded to support up to two companies [200-400 personnel]," the Final EIS states.

The Defense Department said there may be circumstances when range use could occur for longer periods of time than indicated in the Final EIS, depending on the specifics of training exercises and conditions.

The ranges as proposed would be used by up to 400 military personnel at a time.

Ranges would primarily be used during daylight hours. However, some training is required during night time, typically between 7pm and 6am.

Volume 3

Volume 3 of the Final EIS focuses on the development of live-fire training ranges on Tinian.

With the relatively short travel times to Tinian from Guam, "the required training would be accomplished for 200-400 Marines within a one-week period, 12 times per year," the Defense Department said.

"A similar level of training at any other location would require more than a one-week training evolution, and time spent in travel is not available for meeting other training requirements such as classroom training. Loss of time due to travel would impact the overall ability to achieve training requirements," the Defense Department said.

The Fitial administration is now reviewing the massive document, which can be downloaded at www.guam-buildupeis.us. Copies are also available at public libraries in the CNMI and Guam.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said the Tinian Legislative Delegation which he chairs "will make time this week to discuss the issue at a leadership level."

"We may be requesting for Mr. [David] Bice's presence during the meeting," Hofschneider told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. Bice is the executive director of the Joint Guam Program Office.

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz has been repeatedly saying that Tinian has waited for some 30 years for increased military activities on the island.

Tinian has an estimated population

of 4,000.

No supporting facilities to be built

The Defense Department said there are no supporting facilities being proposed for the Tinian ranges.

This means all training would be considered "expeditionary" in that the Marines would bring all necessary equipment to the ranges, would camp onsite, and would remove all equipment following completion of training activities.

For example, no utilities systems would be required as commercial portable sanitation units would be used.

There is also an existing leach field west of 8th Avenue on Tinian that would be used for disposal of wastewater from portable sanitation units.

There will also be no storage of equipment or ammunition on the ranges, the military said.

Termination of lease deal possible

The Defense Department said the termination of the leaseback area agreement on Tinian "is possible with appropriate notification to the CNMI government."

The over 15,300 acres of Tinian lands leased by the Defense Department contain two adjacent and connected training ranges—the exclusive military use area, and the leaseback area.

The leaseback area is a joint military and civilian use area. Tinian residents use the area for cattle grazing, agriculture and other civilian use.

"The military use of this area, subject to other applicable laws and agreements, is [by conditions of the lease] flexible and assured within specified limits," the Defense Department said.

It added that Tinian, with its availability of land, proximity to Guam, and the reliability of access, "makes it the only suitable location for this training for Marines based on Guam."

The key feature of the exclusive military use area on Tinian is North Field, which is now a National Historic Landmark.

During World War II, aircraft originating from Tinian's North Field dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, which helped end the war.

The release of the Final EIS came on the eve of the 65th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bombs "Little Boy" and "Fat Man" on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The commemoration on Tinian will be highlighted by an Aug. 5 educational dialogue called the "The Manhattan Project and Tinian: An Educational Symposium," where five bomb experts will discuss issues related to the occasion, as well as a memorial service on Aug. 6 at the North Field atomic bomb pits.

DPL nixes mayor's flea market idea; Flores 'very displeased'

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has officially denied the request of Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores to use the Garapan Fishing Base as venue for its proposed community market.

In a letter addressed to Flores July 28, DPL Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said their office disapproved the granting of permit "with regret," adding that they have not received the documents they requested and their concerns stated in their July 8 letter to Flores remain to be addressed.

"The DPL has not received the information or documents requested in our letter of July 8, 2010," said Babauta.

According to Babauta, the DPL also has another request to lease the Garapan Fishing Base. "Our Real Estate staff is currently negotiating for a positive recommendation of the lease," he added.

Babauta also cited the agreement between DPL and the Department of Land and Natural Resources that allows the Farmers' Association to conduct the Tuesday Night Market at the Garapan Fishing Base.

The weekly market currently uses the Kristo Rai Parish parking lot as a temporary setting while the booths remain to be dismantled.

"Because of this arrangement, we ask that your office dismantle and remove all booths from the site before the next Tuesday Night Market on August 3," the letter stated.

On July 8, Babauta wrote a letter to Flores regarding his request. In his letter, Babauta pointed out that should their request be approved, DPL will only issue a temporary authorization to the mayor's office since the site is "a prime location for long-term lease investments."

Babauta also expressed in his letter DPL's concerns about the proposal, which include the daily security plan, anticipated clientele, estimated fee(s) for each type of vendor, liability insurance, and any other proposed

activity or purpose(s) for the venue.

Flores wrote to Babauta last July 6 to request for the approval of the use of the Garapan Fishing Base as venue for swap meets, flea markets, and other community festivities.

"The concept of the grounds will enable any concessionaire to utilize the cubed platforms as a business franchise stand," he said.

Flores said the goal of the proposal is to provide the community with a venue for conducting small business ventures such as garage sales, swap meets or flea markets.

According to Flores, part of the revenue generated from the concessions will be shared by DPL and his office. The proposal will be part of the fundraising projects of the Mayor's Office for the 2011 Liberation Day celebration.

Should DPL have approved the permit, Flores said it would

also have been beneficial for DPL as it would also create income for the agency.

The Mayor's Office has a temporary permit that allowed it to construct booths used for the Liberation Day festivities, which began with the opening of the Liberation Day carnival last June 4. The temporary permit expired last July 23.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Babauta but he did not return calls.

'Very displeased'

Flores told *Saipan Tribune* that they only received the July 28 letter last Friday. "I am very displeased. It's such a good idea but they don't want it. This is unfortunate," he said.

He is wondering why the permit for the carnival rides was extended when their office has been getting calls from fishermen who complain that their

launch site for their boats is being blocked by the rides.

Although Babauta stated in the letter that they will continue to assist the mayor's office in finding an appropriate site for his proposal, Flores is already unenthusiastic about the offer.

"Where are they going to have it? There's no other place suitable," he said.

Flores said his office will start to dismantle the booths this week. He said they will keep the materials and use it for sensible purposes like helping people that need to repair their flooring or roof.

According to Flores, he will meet with the 2011 Liberation Day Committee to think of other options to raise funds for next year's celebration.

"I want to try to show that we can do it. I'm going to try to do

that," he added.

Farmers' association, carnival rides

Flores said he also spoke with Sabalu Farmers Market president Isidoro Cabrera to discuss the prospect of working together on the use of the Garapan Fishing Base.

"I told [Cabrera] they can use it on Tuesdays for free but he came back to me and said they don't want it," said Flores.

When asked for comment, Cabrera said he acknowledges what the mayor intends to do with the land. "I understand the concern of the mayor. I like the idea. The problem is that we cannot fit the Tuesday Night Market in the booths," he said.

Cabrera said he conducted a survey a couple of weeks ago on what the 35 members of the

group think about the proposal.

He said everyone wants the original, open-space setup for their night market.

According to Cabrera, the farmers feel that the booths block the public's view of the night market, adding that people tend to stop by the market if they see it in plain sight.

Cabrera also said parking is another concern as the booths take up much area that can be used as parking space for both vendors and buyers.

He added that they incurred additional expenses since they pay Kristo Rai Parish \$150 every Tuesday for the use of their parking lot. DPL does not charge them anything for the use of Garapan Fishing Base.

"The farmers are anxious to return to their original location," said Cabrera.


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Sanpo-en delegation holds paper lantern ceremony



ROTA'S ALLURE

The Wedding Cake Mountain, so-called for its shape, has become an enduring landmark for Rota, which is the CNMI's center for ecotourism. However, despite its lush greenery, friendly people and its relatively peaceful environment, Rota has been hit hard by the economic recession as shown by lots of empty commercial buildings and other abandoned investments.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

PSS annual report for 2009 highlights major accomplishments

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The State Board of Education has adopted the Public School System's annual report for 2009 that highlights the system's major accomplishments in student learning and other areas of strategic priorities.

As reported in the 224-page document, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said that one of the system's major accomplishments under her leadership was the award of \$32 million in State Fiscal Stabilization Fund from the U.S. Department of Education, a portion of which was received in 2009.

"Of this amount, we have set aside funds to hire 105 teachers and counselors, improve our access to technology with one laptop per child at junior high and

senior high schools, improve our career technical education programs, and repair, renovate and modernize our classrooms and other school facilities," said Sablan.

PSS also highlighted the \$3 million consolidated grant award from the USDOE that will be used for student programs, teacher training, turning around low performing schools, development of an electronic databank, and comprehensive systems for peer review as it relates to the standards and assessment. The additional grant will also be used to upgrade the system's Web site as well as for schools to meet their adequate yearly progress.



Sablan

In addition, PSS also received \$6.4 million from the U.S. Department of Energy for its green energy project. This project will enable some schools to employ alternative energy, thereby saving PSS from higher utility costs.

In school year 2009, PSS also implemented summer institutes for teachers, counselors, teacher aides, and school administrators from Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. In 2009, PSS had 71 percent highly qualified teachers, 81 percent highly qualified administrators, and 70 percent highly qualified counselors.

That same year, student performance continued to show progress as measured in the Stanford Achievement Tests

and Standards Based Assessment, Sablan said.

"All of our benchmark grades tested on the SAT-10 are performing between the 44 and 47 percent rank, with a similar performance for students on the SBA where more than 48 percent are performing at the proficient or advanced levels," the annual report stated.

The graduation rate in 2009 was also higher at 96 percent, with 49 percent going off to college; 22 percent going to the armed forces; 19 percent entering the workforce; and 10 percent undecided.

The annual report also included all accomplishments of the Education Board and the commitment of parents, staff, and stakeholders to ensure the success of the islands' educational system.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Sanpo-en International Cultural Exchange Association Honorary Citizenship of Saipan held the annual paper lantern ceremony last Friday at the beach behind the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel in Chalan Kanoa.

The Japanese delegation, composed of 32 students and six chaperones, including high priest Kayaki Kansho, made 300 pieces of paper lanterns that were released into the open sea as part of a religious ceremony that aims to pray for all those who perished during the war.

Mayor Donald Flores, several Mayor's Office staff, 2010 Liberation Day Royal Princess Reina Anabeth Deleon Guerrero Chong, 2010 Liberation Day 2nd runner up Angela Bermudes Aldan, and some of the host families were at the beach site to witness the annual event.

According to a member of the mayor's office staff, the Japanese delegation started making the paper lanterns in the afternoon.

After the lantern making, Kansho led the group in prayer for the war dead. All 300 paper lanterns were released to the sea after 6pm.

The mayor's office provided

dinner for the guests immediately after the ceremony, she added.

Each year, students from different parts of Japan join the Sanpo-en delegation that visits Saipan annually.

Kansho earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that they have been doing the cultural exchange program between Japan and Saipan for 32 years now.

According to Kansho, the delegation conducts religious ceremonies on island to teach and encourage their students to pray for all those who died during the war.

Aside from the religious aspect of the visit, students also learn about the history of Japan and Saipan through their visits to several historical sites on island.

The Japanese delegation also got to experience local culture by staying with local host families during part of their stay.

Last Saturday, the students were entrusted to 16 local families. They will be brought back to the care of the Mayor's office at 9am today.

A *sayonara* (Japanese term for goodbye or farewell) party will be hosted for the delegates tonight.

The Sanpo-en delegation will leave Saipan early Tuesday morning.

KSKK delegation leaves Saipan after a weeklong stay with host families

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The KSKK delegation from Japan who were on Saipan as part of a cultural exchange program left the island last Saturday afternoon.

Eleven students and one adult chaperone arrived on July 24 and lived with five local families during their week-long stay, said executive secretary Vincyia Seman of the Saipan Mayor's office.

Seman said the delegates were under the care of the Mayor's Office from 7:30am to 4:30pm every day, after which the host families were responsible for them.

Throughout their stay, the Japanese students visited historical and tourist sites on Saipan, including the CNMI museum, American Memorial Park, Last Command Post, Banzai and Suicide Cliffs, and Mt. Tapochao, said Seman.

According to Seman, the students, including some of the children of the host families, were able to do other activities through the generous support of several private entities.

The students were given free pool passes by Pacific Islands Club and experienced go-kart racing, courtesy of Marianas Resort.

Seman said Tony Pellegrino provided the group with free boat transportation to Managaha last Wednesday through his boat, the *Jambalaya*.

The host families, mean-

while, brought the students to the Thursday Street Market.

Friday was allotted for shopping and a visit to the Sugar King Park in Garapan.

The Mayor's Office hosted a *sayonara* (Japanese word for goodbye or farewell) party for the Japanese delegation, attended by the host families last Friday evening.

During the party, the Japanese students showcased their culture by performing Japanese songs, demonstrating origami or the art of paper folding, and writing the names of their local families in Japanese characters called *kanji*.

Seman said the students were so happy about their stay on Saipan that most of the girls were in tears when they said goodbye to their host families at the airport.

Three Japanese male students even wore the Carolinian bead necklaces given to them when they left last Saturday, she said.

Seman also acknowledged Richard Maratita, a former Saipan Mayor's Office employee who worked during the term of former mayor Juan B. Tudela.

According to Seman, Maratita provided them assistance during KSKK group's visit. He is also helping out with the Sanpo-en delegation, the Japanese group that arrived Thursday morning and is leaving early Tuesday morning.

Seman also recognized the assistance of the AMP staff and rangers.

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Head Start's Yamagata retires

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Head Start program director Kathleen Keiko Yamagata has retired from the Public School System, according to the Board of Education.

Board member Herman T. Guerrero said Yamagata served at PSS' Head Start program for more than 15 years in various capacities.

During Yamagata's time as the top officer of the program, PSS saw a smooth and efficient operation of the program on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, Guerrero said.

Cop in extortion case pleads not guilty

The U.S. government has filed a second superseding indictment that added the word "knowingly" in the two extortion charges filed against a police officer.

As in the superseding indictment, Christopher Leon Guerrero is being charged with two counts of extortion under color of official right.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley stated in the second superseding indictment that Christopher Leon Guerrero committed extortion beginning on Sept. 15, 2009 through Oct. 9, 2009.

O'Malley said Leon Guerrero knowingly used his position as a police officer to obtain money from the driver of an illegal taxicab, in exchange for dismissing the driver's criminal case.

The board approved announcing the vacation position during Friday's meeting.

Guerrero said Yamagata has vowed to help PSS ensure a smooth transition for the program.

The federally funded Head Start program serves 462 children in the Commonwealth, based on the 2009 annual report of PSS and BOE.

It cited numerous accomplishments in the area of high student performance, safe and orderly schools, highly qualified personnel, and effective and efficient operations.

In the second count, O'Malley said the extortion happened on June 13, 2009.

O'Malley said Leon Guerrero knowingly used his position as a police officer to obtain money from the driver of an illegal taxicab, in exchange for dismissing the driver's criminal case.

On Friday, Leon Guerrero pleaded not guilty to the charges contained in the second superseding indictment. His trial will begin today, Monday, in the U.S. District Court for the NMI. Visiting judge David O. Carter will preside over the trial.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested Leon Guerrero on Nov. 16, 2009. He is currently out on bail. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Throughout school year 2008-2009, Head Start initiated 13 professional development events, self-assessment process, community-assessment process, ongoing monitoring at all 10 centers, and management and staff meetings.

'Facilities improvement'

Using PSS capital improvement projects fund, Head Start facilities broke new ground in 2009. These includes the installation of five stationery playground equipment, installation of chain link fences at six centers, construction of a tricycle path at the Tanapag and San Antonio center, and construction of generator houses at all seven Saipan centers.

Other improvements were the construction of a parking pad at Kagman center and installation of storm shutters at three centers.

Head Start is a program under the Department of Health and Human Services, which provides developmental services for low-income children ages 3 to 5 and social services for their families.

Two years ago, the funded enrollment figure for Head Start dropped from 579 to 462 due to a reduction in the funding allotment for the program. Every year, the program gets \$1.7 million in federal funds. However, its local matching fund decreased from almost \$700,000 to just \$350,000.



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Job Vacancy No. 10-028 **Opening Date: Friday, 7/02/10**
Closing Date: Monday, 8/02/10

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DUTIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is a government utility providing power, water and wastewater services in the Northern Marian Islands, a U.S. commonwealth in the western Pacific. Under the direct supervision of the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) OR his/her designee shall have full management responsibility for all divisions and sections of this government corporation.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:


Required Training and Experience: Master's degree in management, engineering, finance, or public administration, or, in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, chemical, mechanical, or electrical branch; Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years in a similar wastewater, drinking water, and/or power utility (preferably combined utility) with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training and implementation needs.

Required Skill in: Proven management and communication skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff; Experience with managing major drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; bond funding; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.

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SALARY: \$120,000 \$150,000 per year.
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Military training on FDM, Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training on Farallon de Medinilla Aug. 2-6, from 7am to midnight and on Warning Area-517 Aug. 2, from 7am to midnight.

The Navy will conduct training on W-517 Aug. 3-4 from

8am to 5pm.

The Coast Guard will conduct training on W-517 Aug. 5-6 from 8am to 7pm.

The general public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear

from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped

polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. **(PR)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOC's Ada guest at Chamber membership meeting

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its general membership meeting at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret on Wednesday, Aug. 4. Commerce Secretary Michael Ada will offer Chamber members an update on the federal census, further information about the Small Business Development Center, information about the status of SBA lending, an update on ARRA projects in the Commonwealth, an update on the Guam military buildup, and more!

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. As usual,

the meeting is \$15 for members, \$20 for guests of members, and \$25 for general public. **(SCC)**

MRCDC sets executive board meeting

The Marianas Resource Conservation and Development Council will hold an executive board meeting/teleconference on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 5, 5pm-6pm. The public is invited. For island-specific location information or special accommodation for disability call (671) 483-9415. **(PR)**

Program on Article XII tomorrow

Citizens for Change of Article

XII will be hosting a program on Channel 2 on Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2010, and running for three consecutive Tuesdays (Aug. 10, and Aug. 17) from 7pm to 7:30pm. Be sure to tune in and learn more about issues relating to Article XII from David Sablan, Alex Sablan, Vince Seaman, and others. **(PR)**

Veterans' briefing

Tina San Augustine, the Department of Veterans Affairs' public contract and outreach specialist for Guam and the CNMI, will be on Rota, Tinian and Saipan on Aug. 23-27, 2010, for a Veterans Outreach on veteran federal benefits. She will be also entertaining questions and assisting veterans

with their claims.

■ Rota: Aug. 23, 2010, 8:30am-4:30pm, Rota Mayor's Office conference room

■ Tinian: Aug. 24-25, 8:30am-4:30pm, Tinian Municipal Council's office

■ Saipan: Aug. 26-27, 8am-4:30pm, Office of Military/Veterans Affairs on Capitol Hill, Building 1364.

For more information, call Ruth Coleman at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs at 664-2650.

Free seminar at public library

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe will be hosting a free seminar on Medication as part of its "Self-Management Tools for Healthy Living." The seminar will be held on Aug. 4, 2010, from 5:30pm to 7pm. Healthy refreshments will be served while supplies last. **(PR)**

Saipan Summer Jam 2010

The Saipan Summer Jam team would like to invite participants who wish to join the car show on Aug. 21. The categories include: Best Import, Best Monster Truck, Best Classic, Best Overall, and Soundoff Competition. Food vendors, car dealerships, and sponsors are also welcome to participate. Contact Rhiner Aguon at 483-7769 or e-mail saipansummerjam@gmail.com for more information. **(PR)**



AUG. 2, 1999

Govt asked to clarify ban on PROC nationals

Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes has expressed concern over potential "adverse repercussions" of the complete ban against all nationals from mainland China seeking entry into the Northern Marianas, as he pressed the Tenorio administration to clarify the move. He also asked the Senate leadership to seek a meeting with the Department of Labor and Immigration to shed light on its decision to issue fresh instructions against processing new entry permits to workers, businessmen and visitors from the People's Republic of China. The ban would have negative impact on the efforts of the Marianas Visitors Authority to promote the island to potential tourists from that country since they are also included among the restricted visitors to the Commonwealth, according to the senator.

Lack of manpower delays sewer line project

In efforts to fast-track the much-delayed sewer line project in southern Saipan, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has offered its help to the private contractor to get exemption from the Department of Labor and Immigration to hire new workers from abroad. CUC Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez has written to DOLI, expressing his support for the project which has been stalled for more than a year after the government-owned utility corporation wrangled with the Commonwealth Ports Authority over funding issues. Between 15 and 20 new contract workers are needed by Pacific Drilling Ltd. to complete the project, but the company is having difficulties in finding skilled laborers on the island to do the job.

AUG. 2, 2000

CPA won't takeover marina

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board yesterday stood pat on its earlier decision not to take over the operations of the financially-troubled Outer Cove Marina since the ports authority is still struggling to generate revenue to pay for its \$33 million seaport revenue bond. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has asked CPA to study the offer made by the Marine Revitalization Corp. for the government to take over the operation of the Outer Cove Marina. MRC, a non-profit corporation operating the marina, is bleeding some \$24,000 a month in interest payment alone for its huge debt. While the board understands the difficult financial situation of MRC, the ports authority cannot assume additional debts since it is saddled with its own financial problems, according to Board Chair Roman S. Palacios.

Stay of \$10K water wellhead fee draws support from House

The chairman of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications yesterday threw support behind appeal by private well owners for a stay on the proposed fees of at least \$10,000 for each wellhead. Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho said the fees are "ridiculously high" at a time when the island is still mired in economic crisis and most of the wells are aging. During a meeting with well owners, water companies and federal and local agencies, his committee gathered inputs and recommendations for a proposed comprehensive legislation that will deal with the worsening water situation in the CNMI, particularly on Saipan. According to Mr. Camacho, private well owners had expressed willingness to pay the fees and even to be metered, but that they want the Division of Environmental Quality to consider other factors before imposing such fees.

AUG. 2, 2001

Procurement regs changes require deeper study—OPA

The Office of the Public Auditor does not oppose any moves to amend the government's procurement process but several factors must be considered when contemplating such moves. This was the tenor of a letter submitted to the Senate by Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan, in response to concerns and questions raised by some senators over protests and appeals stemming from the government's procurement process. Sablan told Senate President Paul A. Manglona and Sen. Edward U. Maratita, chair of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, that, when looking at protests and appeals, one must look at the number of protests in relation to the total number of projects.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

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/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB10-DEQ-129

SUBMISSION DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

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/s/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP10-DPW/SW-124

SUBMISSION: AUGUST 17, 2010 • TIME: 4:00 P.M.

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/s/ THELMA B. INOS
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/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, August 4, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance at 670.234-6866/7689/7670 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. thru 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
 - June 15, 2010 – Special Meeting
 - July 20, 2010 – Regular Meeting
- PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**
 - Update on Proposed Projects for Program Year 2010
- MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAMS**
 - HOME Loan for Approval
 - Other Loan Matters
 - RD Defaulted Loans Proposal Update
- PROGRAM & HOUSING**
 - HUD TA - August 10-13, 2010
- FIELD OFFICE REPORTS**
- ADMIN & PROCUREMENT MATTERS**
- FISCAL MATTERS**
 - Travel Policy
 - Budget
- EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- OTHER MATTERS**
- ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: Pursuant to PL 8-41, Section 13(6) and (7), some discussion of the above may be under Executive Session.

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Deadline nears for USCIS national children’s art project

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has commissioned an art project for children across the United States to create images depicting their interpretation of the theme, “We Are America.”

This project asks children to draw pictures that answer the question “People have come from all over the world to become Americans. Why does that make us great?”

USCIS will collaborate on this project with public libraries and other community-based organizations serving America’s immigrant communities this summer. USCIS will display submissions in offices across the country and will recognize participants during the 2010 celebration of the “September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.”

Project Guidelines

To obtain a submission form, children may either stop by the nearest USCIS office or print one from the USCIS Web site at www.uscis.gov/childrensartproject.

To participate in the project, children must be between 5-12 years of age as of Sept. 11, 2010.

All art submissions must be:

- On 8.5 x 11 or 11 x 17 inch paper in any medium including: paint, crayons, markers, colored pencils or collage
- Accompanied by a short paragraph (2-3 sentences) that explains how the picture relates to the project theme, “We Are America” and answers the question “People have come from all over the world to become Americans. Why does that make us great?”
- Submitted to USCIS from June 12, 2010 to Aug. 16, 2010

If you are unable to obtain the official submission form, you may send your art to any USCIS field office in the United States, via mail, accompanied with the

- following information:
- Artist Name
 - Age
 - Birth Date
 - Phone
 - Email (optional)
 - Street Address (optional)

NMC Fall registration begins on Aug. 16

Those interested in enrolling in the Northern Marianas College’s Fall 2010 semester can register for classes beginning Monday, Aug. 16, 2010. Registration will continue through Aug. 21, 2010.

The college offers several degree and certificate programs, including bachelor of science degrees in elementary education, associate degrees in business, business administration (emphasis on accounting, business management, or computer applications), liberal arts, nursing, natural resources management, criminal justice, and hospitality management. Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

New students are required to take the English and Math placement tests before they register. After taking the placement tests, students can obtain the required slip from the English and Math departments and meet with their academic advisors. NMC academic advisors will help new students fill in registration forms and create class schedules. Students can then finish the registration process in NMC’s Room D-1.

Application for admissions will still be accepted until the last day of registration on Saturday, Aug. 21, 2010, provided that both placement tests have been taken.

Ongoing students must clear any outstanding balances

- City/State/Zip
- Name(s) and signature of parents or guardian
- Are your parents or other family members employees of USCIS?
- How did you hear about

at the Finance Office, the Library, or the Curriculum Resource Center before they can

this project?

The USCIS will be unable to return submissions; they will become property of USCIS. Artwork will be displayed at USCIS Headquarters in Washington D.C., in USCIS

register for classes. To find out if any balances exist, students can visit the Office of Admis-

offices nationwide and a select number of submissions will be posted on www.uscis.gov/childrensartproject.

You can mail or drop off submissions at your local USCIS office. To find the address of your local office visit their Web site at: www.uscis.gov/childrensartproject or call USCIS at 1-800-

375-5283. You must address all mailed entries to the “USCIS National Children’s Art Project.”

Mailed entries should be postmarked no later than Aug. 16.

For questions or inquiries about the USCIS National Children’s Art Project e-mail USCISartproject@dhs.gov. (**USCIS**)

of Admissions and Records at 234-5498 ext. 1528, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (**NMC**)

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall 2010 Semester

- Aug. 13: Early registration for SOE seniors and students graduating in Spring 2011 only (9am – 6pm)
- Aug. 16-20: Fall regular registration for all students (9am – 6pm)
- Aug. 20: Student orientation for new students at 9am



- 3:30pm in the NMC Library (Building O)
- Aug. 21: Late registration (9am – 12pm)
- Aug. 23: First day of fall classes
- Aug. 23: Student orientation for international & evening students at 5pm – 8pm in the NMC Library (Building O)

Placement Test Dates:

- English Placement Test**
 - Aug. 6: 8am - 11am (D-1)
 - Aug. 10: 1pm - 4pm (D-1)
 - Aug. 11: 1pm - 4pm (D-1)
 - Aug. 12: 1pm - 4pm (D-1)
 - Aug. 12: 5pm - 8pm (D-1)
 - Aug. 18: 9am - 12pm (A-7)

Math Placement Test

- Aug. 10: 10am - 12pm (A-5)
- Aug. 10: 5pm - 7pm (A-5)
- Aug. 12: 10am - 12pm (A-5)
- Aug. 12: 5pm - 7pm (A-5)
- Aug. 19: 10am - 12pm (A-5)
- Aug. 19: 5pm - 7pm (A-5)
- Aug. 20: 10am - 12pm (A-5)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING
Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0956/0957 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0995

NOTICE OF HEARINGS
PENDING 2009 DENIAL APPEALS
Monday, August 2, 2010, First Notice
Monday, August 9, 2010, Second Notice

Notice is hereby given to the persons listed below to appear at the Hearing Office, Department of Labor, Second Floor, Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, on the date and at the time listed below. Please bring any documentation necessary to resolve the issues that led to the denial of your permit application. If you fail to appear or fail to bring required documentation, the appeal may be dismissed and an administrative order may be entered against you. Any employee who intends to request permission to transfer to a new employer must appear at the hearing to make that request; failure to appear may result in immediate denial of transfer relief.

Case No.	Employee	Employer	Hearing Date	Time
DC 09-832	Naraja, Luis P.	Auntie Mag's Food Catering	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-682	Dino, Roland Legaspi	Cargo Express (Saipan) Inc.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-351	Xu, Jinji	Century Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-1025	Acaba, Nelson M.	Elm's Inc.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-1050	Naol, Salvador G. Jr.	Gem's Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 10-1047	Soriano, Rogelio	Gem's Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-902	Chen, Dongshun	Great Sunshine Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-771	Monje, Shirley B.	Inktec Pacific Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-789	Barbo, Gerry P.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-790	Camposagrado, Arnold A.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-1009	Detera, Jonathan C.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-791	Diocton, Teotimo A.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-792	Doca, Rito B.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-793	Macatantan, Armando S.	MAC-US International Inc.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-107	Alibio, Evelyn O.	McMillan Corp.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-735	Cunanan, Renato C.	Misamis Construction (Spn) Ltd.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-736	Lorenzo, Conrado B. Jr.	Misamis Construction (Spn) Ltd.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-744	Relano, Antonio S.	Misamis Construction (Spn) Ltd.	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-673	Alarde, Jordan Q.	Owen Corporation	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-672	Atienza, Rolando A.	Owen Corporation	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-991	Itaas, Quirico L. Jr.	Quantum Investment LLC.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-431	Barcelo, Roberto	Sae Woon Corporation	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-986	De Tablan, Marilou R.	Saipan Employment Agency & Services	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-980	Moral, May Mylene R.	Saipan Employment Agency & Services	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-363	Santos, Emma G.	Saipan Employment Agency & Services	August 12, 2010	1:00 P.M.
DC 09-599	Matuto, Jaime	Saipan Plant Center	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-912	Perez, Mary Joy P.	Santos, David S.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.
DC 09-913	Capinpin, Rosemarie B.	Taitano, Vivian S.	August 12, 2010	9:00 A.M.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

QUALIFICATIONS:


SERVICE ADVISOR

- HIGH SCHOOL OR DEGREE IN AUTOMOTIVE
- WITH 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE OR EQUIVALENT
- MUST HAVE AUTOMOTIVE KNOWLEDGE
- EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- EXCELLENT PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS
- ABILITY TO WORK COOPERATIVELY IN A TEAM
- GOOD TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS
- HAVE A CURRENT POLICE CLEARANCE

BODY AUTO REPAIRER

- WITH 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE OR EQUIVALENT
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR DEGREE IN AUTOMOTIVE
- MUST HAVE AUTOMOTIVE KNOWLEDGE IN BODY REPAIR
- EXCELLENT PRESENTATION AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- ABILITY TO WORK WELL WITHIN A TEAM ENVIRONMENT.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY DROP THEIR RESUME TO:

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

New report shows how government bailouts, stimulus helped the economy

It's popular, but unwise, to unload on the presidential responses to this deep recession.

Across the country, a disappointing number of political candidates of all stripes are lining up to bash the bank bailout, federal stimulus efforts and government loans. Their evidence of the failure of these policies promoted by President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama: Look around, and it's obvious the economy isn't back to what it once was, so we've saddled ourselves with debt for nothing.

This is dangerous thinking. Throughout this debate what has been missing is a comprehensive look at what the nation faced without the government response. There is one now, and the picture is eye-opening.

In fact, the report notes that not only would we still be deep in a recession and shedding millions more jobs, but the federal deficit would be a trillion dollars higher than now because of lower tax revenues.

Mark Zandi, chief economist for Moody's Analytics and former adviser to John McCain's presidential campaign, and Alan Blinder, a Princeton University economist and former economic adviser to President Bill Clinton, modeled the past and what might have happened without the much-derided government responses.

Their findings: "Effects on real Gross Domestic Product, jobs and inflation are huge, and probably averted what could have been called Great Depression 2.0. For example, we estimate that, without the government's response, GDP in 2010 would be about 6.5 percent lower, payroll employment would be less by some 8.5 million jobs, and the nation would now be experiencing deflation."

The report notes that the bailout and federal loans had a deeper effect than stimulus spending, but that the stimulus added 2.7 million jobs to a limping economy and raised GDP by a full 2 percent.

They stated, "Maybe the country and the world were just lucky. But we take another view: The Great Recession gave way to recovery as quickly as it did largely because of the unprecedented responses by monetary and fiscal policymakers."

What might have happened without intervention matters greatly to the current political climate. While this study is an estimate, it is based on trusted modeling.

There is still work to be done. This recovery is fragile. The report concludes: "When all is said and done, the financial and fiscal policies will have cost taxpayers a substantial sum, but not nearly as much as most had feared and not nearly as much as if policymakers had not acted at all."

(c) 2010, The Kansas City Star



Let's talk about our financial literacy

Money—I need MONEY! We work hard daily to earn it yet never seem to have enough of it. Why? Could it be that we don't really know how to stretch it and get the most bang for our buck? What if someone was to teach us how to make one dollar do the work of two? What if we could make loans almost on our terms? What if we learned how to make our savings earn more money for us? Do you agree we need help in learning how to stretch one dollar into two? Can we learn how to?

Here is a short test to check our financial literacy. If we fail this simple test on financial literacy, please read to the bottom of the article where help is being offered to us interested in learning how to stretch our dollar.

How many of the following questions or words that pertain to borrowing do we understand?

- What does annual percentage rate (APR) mean?
- Do we understand the different types of finance charges when we apply for a loan?
- What is the difference between "simple interest" and "compound interest"?
- What does a balloon payment mean?
- Which pays more interest: a savings account or a Time Deposit Certificate?
- What is a promissory note?
- What does "prime rate" mean?
- What does "declining balance" on a loan mean?
- What is a chattel mortgage?
- What does collateral mean?

There are many more questions we could ask. But how did we fare out on the above? If we failed most of them, it is time we take control of how we use our money in a more serious manner.

My reason for bringing this subject to our attention is that unfortunately most of us are financial illiterates. We work very hard for every dollar, but we never take the time to understand how to best utilize and maximize its use. We go to banks or other lending institutions and borrow money without knowing how much the "renting of money" costs us. We never quite understand the budgeting and proper use of money.

Do we know the difference between a "debit card" and a "credit card" and when to use one or the other? We use credit cards recklessly only to wake up one morning realizing that we are heavily in debt. Then to help pay off the debt, we beg our bosses for overtime or search for an extra job in the hope of paying off the debt.

For example, many of us pride ourselves on having a credit card or credit cards. But do we realize how much they cost us for the convenience of going into a store, slamming the card down with our chest puffed out and proudly saying: "Charge it!" What a feeling!

But do we know how much that moment is costing us? In many cases it is as high as 14 percent or 15 percent! Calculate using our card to buy a \$500.00 item and see how much that item really cost us. So the hole only gets deeper unless we learn how to cover it up.

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



Recently Wells Fargo on Saipan closed down. To many of us it was a shock and a moment of sadness. But to me it is a blessing. Why? Because whenever we went in to borrow money it cost us about 29 percent. This means that for every \$100 per year we borrowed, we repaid \$129.00 back. Do we realize what this does to our buying power of our money? We are so determined that we need that loan and are willing to give up so much money than we can afford.

How many of us dread going to the bank? We go in reluctantly to deposit our checks. But heaven forbid if we have to go to borrow money. We feel intimidated and embarrassed.

I always tell people that a bank is no more than a grocery store. The bank's business is to loan (sell) money. If it cannot than it will go out of business like any other store. We can even negotiate the terms and conditions of our loans. I always do. The clerks are just like you and me trying to earn a living. So if we understand better the activity and flow of money we will be able to stretch our dollar further.

Few of us have ever studied personal financing. Schools and colleges almost never teach students anything at all about our economic system in the classrooms, unless we take a special course. And worst of all, most of us don't care to learn how to handle money to maximize its utility. The saddest part of all is that many of our lawmakers do not understand about financial issues on which they pass laws. Ever wonder why we are in dire financial straits?

The heart of the matter is that as important the issue of understanding the flow of money and how to maximize its use, few of us take the time to study it. As a result regardless of how much money we may earn, we never seem to have enough of it.

For a starter, I recommend a book called *Rich Dad/Poor Dad, What the Rich Teach Their Kids about Money That the Poor and the Middle Class Do Not* written by Robert T. Kiyosaki. I have always loved that title. There are many such books geared for any level of help to understanding how to better stretch your money. Check one or two out. Feed your mind.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this article there is help on the way. The Northern Marianas Trades Institute in collaboration with Perry Conner, a professional personal financial planner, will be presenting a course to help us to understand the better use of money. Mr. Conner has spent years as a professional helping people plan more secure financial futures. He brings many good ideas that will help us understand our financial situation and will advice us on how to

See LITERACY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Pinoy’s Little Boy Blue

That’s me. Little Boy is in reference to the instrument of mass destruction assembled in North Field Tinian from parts delivered by the *USS Indianapolis* in 1945.

Little Boy was set to roll out of the “pit” into the belly of a B-29 Wednesday, Aug. 1, 1945, for delivery over the skies of Hiroshima, a dreaded military center by General LeMay’s charts. Inclement weather held back that delivery until the skies lightened up on the 6th of August that allowed the *Enola Gay* to drop a devastating blast over a prefecture on southwest Honshu Island in *Nippon-koku*. All told, the blast, fire and radiation from the atomic fission claimed 120,000 *odon*-slurping souls!

Simultaneous to the hour Little Boy came into being, a little boy blue was born to a family who had just scuttled out of a parish in Nueva Ecija province. A Japanese soldier who occasionally stopped by the parsonage to practice his English revealed that he was a Christian and would look the other way if my cleric Dad would vanish into thin air. It appears that amiable Papa ran the mimeo machine for the underground *Hukbalahap* resistance movement, definitely a *Nihongo Iye Iye*!

North of resistance stronghold Mt. Arayat was Cuyapo where we wailed our first *cri de la résistance*. After a month of waiting, a professional midwife residing with the family to assist my eventual wobble-out decided that I can wait another 24-hours and took off early to visit family. Sure enough, I wiggled out as soon as the dust from the *karetela* (water buffalo-drawn carriage) of our Ina May Gaskin settled down.

Chronology is not our concern here. Uranium Little Boy will get enough of the spotlight on Tinian this week along with 3-day younger sibling plutonium Fat Man of the Nagasaki devastation in a symposium focusing on the bombs.

Nor is our autobiography of any special concern. For sure, we contrast my twin brother’s destructive *raison d’être* to my chosen vocation as an instrument of mass compassion, but that is sheer sentimentalism in the current reactionary orientation of our body politic. One’s 66th birthday is also a big day in Chinese fortune-telling numerology and although the Sino Zodiac reckoning tags me

as already 66 this year, I prefer my Gregorian calendar 65th year this first of August in a year-long anticipation of 66.

Education is our lifelong concern, and the story we create for ourselves is the crucial ingredient that marries our cognitive faculties to our emotional intelligence and our somatic reflexes. I’ve been known to harp at recreating the human. Here’s how my story goes. (Curriculum head Bobbi Merfalen of NMC encouraged me to keep telling it!)

Recall or view the opening scene of John Travolta’s movie *Look Who’s Talking* where squirming sperms race toward Kristie Alley’s ovum. Only one of the 200 million squiggles makes it. Now, consider our parents’ love making ratio; you are as I am the product of the union of one sperm and an ovum after so many attempts. Note the odds. Wherever did we learn that we were born losers? In fact, from inception, I am as you are, the winner of the odds-shattering lottery of our lives!

Monitor for a moment that this was not a victory of the fastest tadpole to reach the ovular wall. The ovum in fact makes a choice on the sperm it allows to penetrate. The boggling odds mean an incredible exercise of freedom: the ovum chooses in the *mêlée* of motion and chaos. No statistical probabilities here, or even a split second to consider compatibilities—for likes and dislikes. It is pure instinct at play, and a choice is made.

We are winners and free creatures from the moment of conception. Now, consider what happens in nine months. In an explosion of productivity and a streaming of innate creativity, two cells create one of the most complex and sophisticated organisms in the animal kingdom of planet earth. From the digestive to the nervous system, this is not an automatic filling up of a mold, it is a continuous evolution, sometimes revolution, of the limits and possibilities of human existence. We are born already tested vets of life’s production line. When is it that we learn we are good-for-nothing wastrels?

Within two years after we are born, we hone our physical resilience into self-sufficient mode so we can handle cell replenishment and waste disposal. If born physiologically challenged, we find ways to either adopt or compensate for our survival skills so that we remain in being. Give another three years and we develop a sense of being

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.



one with and belonging to a group of similar creatures, and in that period of time, we get acculturated to a symbol system (language) that relates us to others as well as enable us to express ourselves. Within seven years, we objectify that symbol system in words, shapes and numbers, creating an abstraction of the mind and becoming recognizably self-reliant and self-confident *homo sapiens*.

What story we tell determines how we live our lives. Unfortunately, we calcified losing and deterministic stories into belief systems, e.g., original sin and social Darwinism, and developed exclusive enclaves on that basis. In today’s glocal interdependence, our parochial stories are no long functional. In fact, some are downright debilitating!

But for now, this day, I celebrate my being here with Being itself in history. To this understanding, I commit my remaining years to educate my fellow journers in life to do likewise. To paraphrase a ditty going around the Internet:

*Life is short but full.
Follow rules but feel free to break them.
Forgive quickly and widely.
Kiss slowly and often.
Love truly and completely.
Laugh uncontrollably.
Never regret anything.
Be conscious. Be happy.
Be thankful. Be.
Smile.*

Letters to the Editor

Biblical principles

When the people of the City of Bell in California found out that its city manager was earning over \$850,000 plus benefit per year, the voters of this jurisdiction were outraged. We are far from this place, yet we can also sympathize with the people of this city. Should the people of Tinian be outraged by the seemingly callous and self-serving interest of the commissioners of the Tinian Casino Gaming Commission? The people of Tinian should demand an explanation and take to task the Tinian Gaming Commission to face reality and do the right thing.

If there is a principle that we can apply, then we can be secured in our expectation that when the right thing is sought, we should get good and rational results every time and all the time. If the Tinian Gaming Commission members make it their usual habit to go to church every Sunday and all days of obligation to the church, then we can draw many unfettered lessons from the greatest man that saved this world and God’s people. Jesus Christ is the greatest CEO that man has ever known. His legacy and righteousness never died and still lives today and will have no end. So, let’s check what principle Jesus Christ tells us about living within our means.

In (Luke 14: 28), it says “For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it.” This tells us that we need to have careful planning. Jesus was telling us that we need to live within our means. How can this be a bad advice from the one that we trust and love so much? On the other hand, the people of Tinian has good reasons to question their representatives in the Tinian Gaming Commission. Again, in Luke 14:29, it says “Lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all who see it begin to mock him.” We can see from here that the Tinian Gaming Commission could take the appropriate action to right

this situation, or the people of Tinian could make it happen by demanding that their Tinian Gaming Commission should change the course of events so that it plans well and right the situation—to count the cost and live within its limited resources.

In the CNMI we seem to be driven and influenced by consumerism, the brainchild of commercialism. We need to understand that the world does not have endless resources to satisfy all the needs of human beings and we are depleting the natural resources faster than the natural process it takes to replace what we use. The U.S. is only 5 percent of the world’s population, but it consumes 45 percent of the world’s resources. This is going to change because of the growing mega economy of other developing nations that would put greater pressure on the use of the world’s available resources. This tells us that the people in the CNMI will be poised to watch what this would mean. One is certain, however, that we would face harsh reality if we do not right our situation and be content with our needs and wants. Wanting and striving for more will only make things worse because we seem to be chasing the good life even in hard and trying times.

Drawing some guidelines for practicing contentment in life from our CEO Jesus, we can learn from 1 Timothy 6:8. It says, “And having food and clothing we shall be content.” Contentment here means that we should limit our wants and be satisfied when our needs are met. The problem with many of us is that we seem to think that all is well even when we can see that conditions are not usual and will have hurtful impacts on our livelihood. We continue doing the same because we have to. Striving to have more than what you can afford will only undermine the need to simplify and live a life of contentment. Mark 4:19 sums it up thus, “And the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.”

I say “Amen” to all our elected and appointed leaders in the CNMI. Do the right thing and you will be rewarded in heaven.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Tanks but no thanks

Would you enjoy paying to pave your neighbor’s driveway? Would you like to pay to clean up that load of oil he spilled in his yard that soaked into the aquifer? Two million bucks?

Senator Tom Ada in Guam thinks you want to do just that. He has introduced Bill No. 429-30 into their Guam Legislature that will add 11 cents to every gallon of gas we buy anywhere in the CNMI. He wants to put an 11cents per gallon tax on every gallon of fuel that leaves Guam headed for the CNMI—that is every gallon of fuel that arrives here. All of it currently transits Guam to get here from Singapore. Every drop.

He wants to take the \$2 million that tax produces and use it to clean up oil spills in Guam. We pay, they get a scrubbing. We get nothing but a drubbing. Our money pays to clean up Guam? Why?

Is this the meaning of “the spirit of unity and cooperation” that Gov. Camacho of Guam proclaims? Do I have this right? Guam gets the cake and we get to do the dishes—again?

If this measure passes I will suggest that we return the favor by causing all goods that reach us from Guam have an import tariff of 100 percent placed on them. If Guam wants to send us something that costs \$100, the tariff tax on that item will be another \$100. I would further suggest that all business travelers from Guam be charged an entry fee of \$100 per head to enter the CNMI and do business. All other Guam residents travelling to the CNMI will be charged \$50 per head. We will exempt U.S. military travelers. Everyone else must pay a fee that we will put into a fund to subsidize the 11 cents per gallon Guam tax on our gas. Any leftover balance we will use to beautify our parks and roadways. We may save a little to build an eternally flaming replica of Senator Ada.

Rep. Stanley McGinnis Torres
*17th CNMI Legislature
Capital Hill, Saipan*

LITERACY

From Page 10

improve it.

For example, he will discuss subjects such as how to get out of credit card debt, how to apply for a loan for any purpose and get a good deal on it,

how to understand interest rates, how to plan a household budget, how to plan for retirement, how to understand taxes, and many other subjects on the use of money. Think of this course as “Everything you always wanted to know about MONEY!” We are fortunate to have a man of Mr. Conner’s experience.

Jot down this date: Aug. 3, at 6pm. At that time Mr. Conner will present a free information session at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. Please call now: 235-6684 to reserve a seat. Bring your wife or a friend. It is a golden opportunity to pick up some pointers on how money works for us or against us.

Now is the time to educate our-

selves about money and its use. A little knowledge will go a long way. Stop throwing away our hard earned money. Take the time and effort to become financially literate. If we don’t, the system will destroy us. We have to protect our families, ourselves and our money. The sooner we admit that we need advice, the sooner we will enjoy






greater use of our money. As someone once said: A fool and his money are soon parted.

See you on Aug. 3, at 6pm at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. Remember call 235-6684. This is a chance to help ourselves. Think of all the extra money we will enjoy once we learn how to stretch it. See you there!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 75
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Majuro	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 79

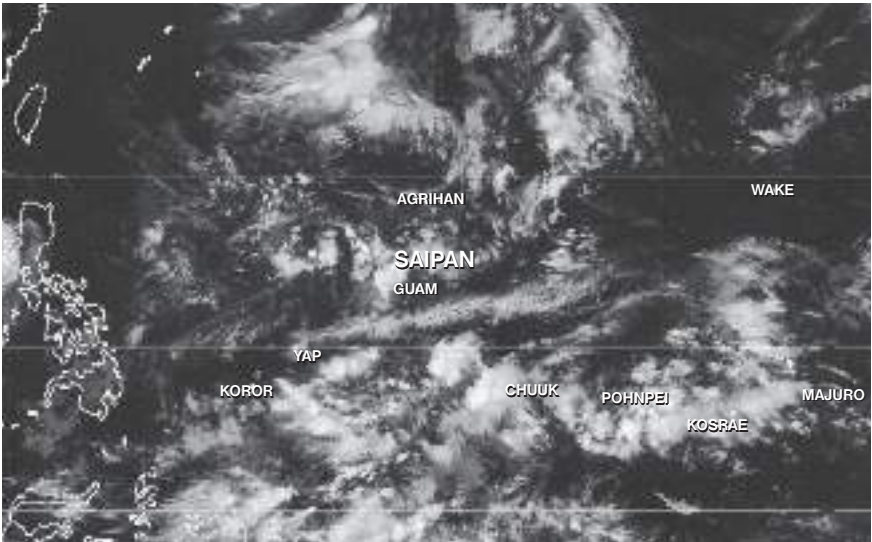
Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲ 59 ▼ 54
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 74
London	Showers	▲ 73 ▼ 58
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 54 ▼ 42
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 81
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 81 ▼ 71
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 94 ▼ 78
Paris	Fog	▲ 73 ▼ 57
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Rome	Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 69
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 55
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59 ▼ 51
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▼ 81
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 72

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
6:34 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
12:27 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
5:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough stretches southwestward from 25N165E through a low centered at 18N153E to end near Guam at 12N143E. Upper-level divergence near the trough is triggering widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the CNMI and Minami Tori Shima in an area bounded by a line from 13N141E to 17N141E to 25N152E to 25N158E to 14N154E back to 13N141E. A weak circulation is currently centered north of Yap at 18N136E. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring between 14N and 20N from 134E to 140E. Another weak circulation is centered south of Guam near 8N146E. Winds converging near and to the southwest of the circulation are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of a line from 6N130E to 10N142E to 10N150E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within an area bounded by a line from 3N150E to 8N150E to 9N159E to 16N164E to 5N170E back to 3N150E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00 AM	6:47 PM
Tuesday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:09 PM	11:22 AM
Tuesday	11:52 PM	12:13 PM
Wednesday		1:08 PM
Thursday	12:41 AM	2:05 PM
Friday	1:36 AM	3:04 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 20, 2010											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM						GUAM-ROTA (ROP)					
CO9597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5			CO9598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7		
SAIPAN-GUAM						GUAM-SAIPAN					
CO9317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily			CO9316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily			CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily		
CO9601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7			CO9600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily		
CO9603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily			CO9602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
CO9605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily			CO9604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily		
CO9599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily			CO9606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily			DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily		
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily			DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily		
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily			DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-NAGOYA						NAGOYA-SAIPAN					
DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily			DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)						OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN					
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily			OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BEIJING						BEIJING-SAIPAN					
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5			CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5			OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1			OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	Daily		
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX		
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX			OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	Daily			OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6			FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN			OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			DL630/641	6:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO		
CO9317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM			DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT		
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT			CO890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM		
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO			OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
CO9603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM			OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
CO9603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau			PR110/CO9596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ606/703	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			CO892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau		
CO9599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			CO934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG						HONG KONG-SAIPAN					
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN			OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
CO9603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM			OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ606/723	3:30pm	10:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			CO910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM		

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Bordallo seeks to improve Guam-CNMI visa waiver program

» Bill also provides requirement for GDP data for Guam and the territories

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) introduced Friday a bill that would make technical corrections to the Guam-CNMI visa waiver program as well as require the Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce to compute the gross domestic product reports for Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Freely Associated States.

Rep. Henry Brown of South Carolina, who serves as the

Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, signed on as original co-sponsor. Additionally, Rep. Eni Faleomavaega of American Samoa, Rep. Donna Christensen of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Rep. Pedro Pierluisi of Puerto Rico, Rep. Jose Serrano of New York, Rep. Al Green of Texas, Rep. Mazie Hirono of Hawaii, and Rep. Mike Honda of California supported this bill as original co-sponsors.

The first section of this bill would direct the Bureau of Economic Analysis to publish annual

reports on the gross domestic product for Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Freely Associated States.

In March 2009, the BEA and the Office of Insular Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior assisted the U.S. territories in developing and producing annual statistics for their respective jurisdictions. The Office of Insular Areas financed this project under its discretionary budget at \$1.6 million over a period of 18 months (March 2009-Sep-

tember 2010). The results were unveiled this year, and the bill introduced Friday would direct BEA to permanently continue its efforts in estimating the GDP for these jurisdictions as part of its existing program and resources.

The second section of this bill would amend the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, Public Law 110-229, to require the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to provide for an alternative procedure to permanently include economi-

cally-beneficial countries in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program. This decision will be left



Bordallo

to the discretion of the Secretary of DHS, but is meant to fulfill the congressional intent of Public Law 110-229 to expand tourism and economic development on Guam and the CNMI.

"It is important that the Congressional intent of Public Law 110-229 be adhered to once the final rule on the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program is released," Bordallo said. "This bill would direct the

Secretary of DHS to, under her discretion, provide for an alternative procedure to ensure that economically-beneficial countries such as China and Russia are included in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program. This bill would also require the Bureau of Economic Analysis to provide annual reports on the gross domestic product of Guam, the U.S. territories, and the Freely Associated States. Last year was the first time that Guam received federal assistance in compiling GDP data, and this bill would ensure that Guam will continue to benefit from the availability of this important economic data." (PR)

Docomo Pacific, IT&E adopt recycling bins

Two more MINA Adopt-a-Bins now grace Saipan's western shoreline, thanks to Docomo Pacific and IT&E.

Nola Hix of IT&E was thrilled with the new bin for Ada Gym. The gymnasium and surrounding sports fields are used by hundreds of athletes and their families every week. The bins will substantially de-

crease the amount of litter left on ground. This is IT&E's first adoption, but there is talk of a second bin for Ada Gym.

James Nelson, Docomo Pacific's general manager, said his business adopted a second bin, this time at 13 Fishermen's Monument, "primarily to help MINA build awareness throughout the community regarding recycling

and how important it is to protect the environment."

Last month, Docomo Pacific joined ranks with Kagman High's Marine Biology Club to adopt their first bin for Saipan's eastern shore at Marine Beach, a well used beach by the Kagman community. Almost immediately after being put in place the recycling bin was vandal-



James Nelson, Docomo Pacific's general manager, turns over a check signifying the company's adoption of the recycling bin at 13 Fishermen's Monument. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTACT INFO

For more information about MINA's Adopt-a-Bin Program and Marine Debris prevention project, visit www.minapacific.org and click on the Goals & Project page or contact 233-Reef, or kathyjuk@gmail.com.



IT&E employees and MINA representatives pose beside the new recycling bin for Ada Gym. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ized with graffiti. It was just as quickly repainted and repaired by Ericco Enterprises, through a grant from NOAA's Marine Debris Program.

"I was crushed when I learned of the bin being defaced," said Nelson, "but we can't let the irresponsible actions of a few misguided people deter us from our goal of protecting the envi-

ronment."

MINA's board planned ahead to cover the costs of bin maintenance.

"We kept a portion of our grant funding aside for just such emergencies," said Agnes Sablan, MINA executive director. "We expect some storm damage and general wear and tear. Unfortunately graffiti is adding un-

necessarily to our maintenance expenditures. The more money we spend on repainting existing bins the less we have to spend on making new bins. I would ask our local 'taggers' to consider this in the future. We all want to be recognized, but we would rather have Saipan recognized for its clean beaches and beautiful natural habitats." (MINA)

Coast Guard medevacs ill sailor

HONOLULU—Coast Guard crewmembers aboard an HC-130 Hercules airplane from Air Station Barbers Point medevaced a Navy dive team member from Kiritimati (Christmas) Island, Thursday evening after he began suffering from chest pains and respiratory distress.

The Coast Guard command



NEW CHRISTIAN

Happy Christening to Sage Jerome Lizama Santos, who was baptized on Aug. 1 2010! Greetings come from the family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

center here received a call for assistance about 8pm Wednesday from the Theater Patient Movement Requirement Center regarding the deteriorating health of the 22-year-old service member.

A Hercules aircrew was launched at 8:30am Thursday to medevac the sailor from the island about 550 miles south of Oahu. Local Emergency Medical Services transferred the patient to the Hercules at 12:30pm.

Medical care was provided by members from the Hawaii Disaster Medical Assistance Team who was aboard the Hercules during the entire transfer.

The patient arrived at Air Station Barbers Point at approximately 5:30pm and was safely transferred to EMS for further treatment at Tripler Army Medical Center Hospital.

The sailor is a member of a Navy dive team deployed to Kiritimati from Kadena, Japan. (USCG)

Golden Harvest's mini-concert a big hit

The first ever mini-concert of The Golden Harvest International School & Day Care at the Multi-Purpose Center last Friday, July 23, was a big success, with a big crowd witnessing the event.

Summer camp participants from different schools—both public and private—showed off their talents in music and dancing. The concert's highlight was the musical drama *Beauty and the Beast*, which wowed the audience. Parents and guests alike were awed, surprised, and could hardly believe this was accomplished in six weeks' time.

GHIS president Susan Deblois thanked and handed out certificates of appreciation to this year's camp mentors for their hard work and dedication in making this event a success.

"Beginning this school year, a music class will be incorporated in the curriculum to hone the

Summer camp participants take part in the musical drama *Beauty and the Beast* during the Golden Harvest International School & Day Care's mini-concert at the Multi-Purpose Center last Friday, July 23.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



students' talents. The school is active in participating in various competitions islandwide and in other community sponsored events. Because of its success,

the school is looking forward to the next summer camp with more surprises to offer its campers," said Deblois.

Golden Harvest is located

in Ghiyeghi St., San Jose. Enrollment is still going on. Open House will be on Aug. 6, 2010. Classes starts Aug. 9, 2010. (PR)

Business

Hanhwa TV, home shopping network feature NMI

Media familiarization tours to the Northern Mariana Islands last month are paying off with additional television exposure in Korea for this island resort destination.

Hanhwa Corporate Broadcasting Center HBC TV sent a crew to Saipan this month for six days to shoot a promotional video for Saipan World Resort, recently purchased by Hanhwa Hotel & Resort company. As the company's first overseas resort, Saipan World Resort—along with Saipan's many attractions—was featured for 15 minutes on the corporate television station last July 22, reaching a viewership of 50,000.

The Marianas Visitors Authority assisted the FAM group with securing visas and photo shooting permits.

"This was an excellent opportunity to promote Saipan to the Hanhwa corporate family as a beautiful and attractive



Saipan World Resort frames GM M.W. Park, at center, hotel staff, and the production crew of Hanhwa Corporate Broadcasting Center HBC TV in early July 2010. Hanhwa Hotel & Resort recently acquired Saipan World Resort in the Northern Mariana Islands and featured the tropical destination on the corporate television station on July 22, 2010.

MVA

destination for both family travel and company incentive travel," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

Another July FAM tour by CJ O Shopping in Korea is expected to yield 600 additional package tour sales to the Northern Marianas during the off-season. The home shopping network will air its promotional package on Aug. 14 and will carry the promotion on its website for three months beginning in late July.

"CJ O Shopping is another good opportunity to position the Northern Marianas as an exotic tropical island attractive to potential travelers from Korea," said Bateman. "We had great success with home shopping promotions last year in Korea, and we hope to repeat that success this year."

The estimated ad exposure value for both media FAMs is over US\$135,000. (MVA)

Hacker builds \$1,500 cell-phone tapping device

By JORDAN ROBERTSON
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A computer security researcher has built a device for just \$1,500 that can intercept some kinds of cell phone calls and record everything that's said.

The attack Chris Paget showed Saturday illustrates weaknesses in GSM, one of the world's most widely used cellular communications technologies.

His attack was benign; he showed how he could intercept a few dozen calls made by fellow hackers in the audience for his talk at the DefCon conference here. But it illustrates that criminals could do

the same thing for malicious purposes, and that consumers have few options for protecting themselves.

Paget said he hopes his research helps spur adoption of newer communications standards that are more secure.

"GSM is broken—it's just plain broken," he said.

GSM is considered 2G, or "second generation," cellular technology. Phones that run on the newer 3G and 4G standards aren't vulnerable to his attack.

If you're using an iPhone or other smart phone and the screen shows that your call is going over a 3G network, for example, you are protected. BlackBerry phones apply en-

ryption to calls that foil the attack, Paget pointed out. But if you're using a type of phone that doesn't specify which type of network it uses, those phones are often vulnerable, Paget said.

Paget's device tricks nearby cell phones into believing it is a legitimate cell phone tower and routing their calls through it. Paget uses Internet-based calling technology to complete the calls and log everything that's said.

A caveat is that recipients see numbers on their Caller IDs that are different than the cell numbers of the people calling them. Paget claims it would be easy to upgrade the software to also include the callers' real numbers.

The device he built is called an "IMSI catcher," which refers to the unique International Mobile Subscriber Identity numbers that phones use to identify themselves to cellular networks.

Commercial versions of such devices have existed for decades and have mainly been used by law enforcement. Paget's work shows how cheaply hobbyists can make the devices using equipment found on the Internet.

"That's a significant change for research - it's a major breakthrough for everyone," said Don Bailey, a GSM expert with iSec Partners who wasn't involved in Paget's research.

Another security expert,

Nicholas DePetrillo, said such devices haven't been built as cheaply in the past because the hardware makers have closely controlled who they sell to. Only recently has the necessary

equipment become available cheaply online.

In the U.S., AT&T Inc. and T-Mobile USA are two cellular operators whose networks include GSM.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Spirit Airlines' carry-on bag fee starts Sunday

Spirit Airlines passengers may want to get to the airport a little earlier than normal Sunday as a new charge for carry-on bags takes effect. The low-fare airline sparked controversy in April when it announced plans to charge for carry-on items. Passengers who pay in advance, either online or by phone, have to fork over \$30. For those who don't pay before arriving at the boarding gate, the fee jumps to \$45. Members of Spirit's special fare club only pay \$20 for a carry-on. And any bag small enough to fit under a seat flies for free. The privately held Spirit is based in Miramar, Fla. and has about 150 daily flights. Most carry leisure travelers from big airports in the U.S. through Fort Lauderdale and on to Latin America.

Oil spill taints UC Berkeley's BP-funded research

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)—BP's catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is fueling opposition to the University of California, Berkeley's research partnership with the British company, with activists and professors on the famously liberal campus calling for a severing of ties. The oil giant gave UC Berkeley a \$500 million grant in 2007 to create the Energy Biosciences Institute, which works to develop new sources of plant-based fuel. The 10-year deal, believed to be the largest-ever corporate sponsorship of university research, has outraged many students and professors who worry the global oil company will exert too much influence over academic research and damage the university's reputation. Now, as the spill devastates the Gulf Coast, some local activists and faculty members say it's time to end the partnership. "Our bottom line is the public good, and their bottom line is profit," said Ignacio Chapela, a UC Berkeley professor of environmental science. "There comes a point where those positions are irreconcilable, and I think that point is now."

Feds warned company in Mich. spill about pipeline

DETROIT (AP)—U.S. regulators earlier this year demanded improvements to the pipeline network that includes a segment that ruptured in southern Michigan, spilling hundreds of thousands of gallons of oil into the Kalamazoo River, according to a document released Saturday. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation's regulatory arm, said it had summoned Enbridge Inc. executives in February to discuss problems with the 1,900-mile Lakehead system. Enbridge owns the pipeline that burst, sending oil into Talmadge Creek, which flows into the Kalamazoo River. The pipeline safety agency informed Enbridge in January that it might have violated safety codes by improperly monitoring corrosion in the pipeline.

Coast Guard allows toxic chemical use on Gulf oil

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Coast Guard has routinely approved BP requests to use thousands of gallons (liters) of toxic chemical a day to break up oil slicks in the Gulf of Mexico despite a federal directive that the chemicals be used only rarely on surface waters, congressional investigators said Saturday after examining BP and government documents.

The documents show the Coast Guard approved 74 waivers over a 48-day period after the restrictions were imposed, resulting in hundreds of thousands of gallons (liters) of the chemicals to be spread on Gulf waters. Only in a small number of cases did the government scale back BP's request.

The extensive use of dispersants to break up oil gushing

from BP's Deepwater Horizon raised concerns early on as to what long-term damage the toxic chemicals might be doing to the Gulf's aquatic life. That prompted the Environmental Protection Agency on May 26 to direct BP to stop using the chemicals on the water surface except in "rare cases."

But Rep. Edward Markey said Saturday that the chemicals continued to be used extensively with Coast Guard approval, often at a rate of 6,000 to 10,000 gallons (22,710 to 37,850 liters) a day. A request was made and approved on June 13 to spread as much as 36,000 gallons (136,270 liters) of dispersant, according to data obtained by Markey's Energy and Environment subcommittee.

The EPA directive "has become more of a meaningless paperwork exercise than an attempt ... to eliminate sur-

face application of chemical dispersants," Markey wrote in a letter sent Friday to retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, the government's point man on the spill.

Markey's office released the letter Saturday as well as the documents his panel had analyzed. Markey said that instead of complying with the EPA directive, "BP often carpet bombed the ocean with these chemicals and the Coast Guard allowed them to do it."

The House investigators found that the Coast Guard routinely approved the chemical use, in some cases a week in advance. On five occasions the Coast Guard approved a BP request to use 6,000 gallons (22,710 liters) a day over a weeklong period and "in many of these days BP still used more than double" the limit that was approved, Markey said in his letter.

Nation

Informant says WikiLeaks suspect had civilian help

By DAVID DISHNEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HAGERSTOWN, Md. (AP)

—An Army private charged with leaking classified material to the whistleblower website WikiLeaks had civilian help, a key figure in the case said Saturday.

The development, first reported in the New York Times, suggests an expansion of the government's investigation into leaks including more than 76,900 secret Afghanistan war records posted on WikiLeaks in the past week.

Army officials didn't immediately return calls and e-mails from The Associated Press asking if they are looking at possible civilian accomplices of Army Pfc. Bradley E. Manning, who's charged under military law with leaking classified material. FBI officials declined to comment and referred inquiries to the Pentagon.

Adrian Lamo, the Sacramento, Calif.-based computer hacker who turned in Bradley to military authorities in May, claimed in a telephone interview Saturday he had firsthand knowledge that someone helped Manning set up encryption software to send classified information to WikiLeaks.

Lamo, who's cooperating with investigators, wouldn't name the person but said the man was among a group of people in the Boston area who work with WikiLeaks. He said the man told him "he actually helped Private Manning set up the encryption software he used."

Lamo said the software enabled Manning to send classified data in small bits so that it would seem innocuous.

"It wouldn't look too much

different from your average guy doing his banking on line," Lamo said.

He said Manning sent the data

to get the attention of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange.

Assange didn't immediately respond to an e-mailed query

from AP about Lamo's claim.

Also on Saturday, a New York Times reporter who has been the newspaper's liaison with

Assange, dismissed Assange's claim that WikiLeaks had offered to let U.S. government officials go through leaked documents to ensure that no innocent people were identified. Assange told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. in an interview that aired Thursday that the New York Times had acted as an intermediary and that the White House hadn't responded to the offer.

Times reporter Eric Schmitt told the AP that on the night of July 23, at White House spokesman's Robert Gibbs' request, he relayed to Assange a White House request that WikiLeaks not publish information that could lead to people being physically harmed.

The next evening, Schmitt

said, Assange replied in an e-mail that WikiLeaks was withholding 15,000 documents for review. Schmitt said Assange wrote that WikiLeaks would consider recommendations made by the International Security Assistance Force "on the identification of innocents for this material if it is willing to provide reviewers."

Schmitt said he forwarded the e-mail to White House officials and Times editors.

"I certainly didn't consider this a serious and realistic offer to the White House to vet any of the documents before they were to be posted, and I think it's ridiculous that Assange is portraying it that way now," Schmitt wrote to the AP.



CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

A helicopter drops water to help combat wildfires in Palmdale, Calif., on Friday, July 30, 2010. A wildfire smoldered in the high desert north of Los Angeles Saturday, spewing plumes of thick smoke that prompted air quality warnings as hundreds of firefighters worked to contain the 2-day-old blaze. The fire has charred nearly 22 square miles of brush in the Antelope Valley. It was 82 percent contained Saturday evening and no structures were threatened, said Los Angeles County Fire Inspector Don Kunitomi. Some 1,300 firefighters were assigned to the fire near Palmdale, a city of 139,000.

AP

3 inmates escape from northwest Arizona prison

PHOENIX (AP)—Police used helicopters and dogs Saturday to search for three convicted murderers who escaped from a northwest Arizona prison, kidnapped two semi-truck drivers at gunpoint and used the big rig to flee.

Department of Corrections spokesman Barrett Marson said the men escaped Friday evening by cutting a hole through a perimeter fence at the medium-security Arizona State Prison in Golden Valley, about 90 miles southeast of Las Vegas. They should be considered especially dangerous because of the nature of their convictions, he said.

Officials identified the escaped convicts as Tracy Province, 42, who was serving a life sentence for murder and robbery; Daniel Renwick, 36, serving 22 years for second-degree murder; and John McCluskey, 45, serving 15 years for second-



In this combination of undated photos provided by the Mohave County Sheriff's Office, Tracy Province, left, John McCluskey, center, Daniel Renwick are shown.

degree murder, aggravated assault and discharge of a firearm.

Flagstaff police Sgt. James Jackson said a woman identified as Casslyn Mae Welch, 44, met the men and helped in their escape, and at about 5 a.m. Saturday, the group kidnapped two drivers of a semi-truck in Kingman and forced them at gunpoint to drive two hours east to Flagstaff.

The group left the drivers, unharmed, in the truck at a stop

just off Interstate 40 and then fled in an unknown direction, Jackson said.

"The truck drivers were lucky to get away unscathed," he said. "I mean, they've been convicted of murder and they're escaping from prison."

Marson said Welch had visited one of the inmates, but he did not immediately know which one.

Pat Carter, a spokeswoman for the Mohave County sher-

iff's office, said Welch was seen at the prison before the escape driving a blue 1996 Chrysler Concord car with Arizona license plate ABL7584. The car hasn't been found.

Authorities urged anyone with information on the escaped prisoners to use caution and call police immediately.

Province was last seen wearing dark blue jeans, a dark purple polo shirt with red stripes, and white tennis shoes. McCluskey was wearing light-color blue jeans, a white button-up shirt with horizontal and vertical blue stripes, and white tennis shoes. There was no information about Renwick's clothing.

Management and Training Corp. of Centerville, Utah, operates the prison. The company operates 17 correctional facilities in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Idaho and Ohio, according to its website.

ACROSS THE NATION

US, allies complete Pacific military training

HONOLULU (AP)—Month-long military drills in the Pacific, which conclude this weekend, were intended only as training exercises to combat terrorism and piracy - and were not meant to send a message to North Korea, the commander of the drills says. Vice Adm. Richard W. Hunt said the biennial 14-nation Rim of the Pacific military exercises had been planned for two years and were not a reaction to North Korea's accusation earlier this month that the U.S. and South Korea were plotting to attack. Hunt says Pacific nations will be better able to combat terrorism, piracy and violent extremism as a result of the exercises. The military drills that end Sunday brought together 20,000 personnel, 32 ships, five submarines and more than 170 aircraft in waters surrounding Hawaii.

survivors after searching the area for 27 hours.

Yellow lobster pulled from R.I.'s Narragansett Bay

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—It's not made of gold, but a yellow lobster pulled from Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay is very rare. Lobsterman Denny Ingram says he found the lobster in one of his pots the bay's East Passage last week. It is golden on the top and bright yellow on both sides. Experts say the genetic feature is very rare, occurring in about 1 in 30 million lobsters. It's also apparently good luck for this lobster, who will not be heading to anyone's dinner table. Ingram says he plans to keep the yellow lobster on display at the fishermen's coop at the State Pier in Newport.

LA pushing to become nation's mass transit leader

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The region famous for jilting the street car to take up a love affair with the automobile is trying to rekindle its long ago romance with commuter rail. If successful, the novel plan to borrow billions from the federal government, led by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, would result in the largest transit expansion project in the nation. Los Angeles County voters agreed two years ago to pay a half-cent sales tax over the next 30 years to extend train and rapid bus lines, projects that would routinely require federal assistance. But the mayor, who sits on a county transportation board, wants a loan instead of Washington handouts to get the projects built in a decade rather than 30 years. He contends it would save money in the long run, result in more construction jobs and less traffic and pollution.

1 killed in plane crash pulled from Lake Michigan

LUDINGTON, Mich. (AP)—Authorities have recovered another victim of a small plane crash in Lake Michigan more than a week ago. The Mason County, Mich., Sheriff's Office says the victim's body was recovered Saturday night. One of the four missing passengers still has not been recovered. All of the victims were on a medical plane that crashed into Lake Michigan on July 23. The body that was recovered is that of either co-pilot Earl Davidson or Dr. James Hall. The medical examiner still must positively identify the body. Bodies belonging to Alma school superintendent Don Pavlik and his wife, Irene, were recovered Friday. The pilot was rescued the day of the crash, but crews gave up hope of finding other

Asia

Six Afghans are killed when minibus hits roadside bomb

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP)—A minibus full of civilians struck a roadside bomb in southern Afghanistan early Sunday, killing six on board, officials said.

Another nine people were wounded in the explosion in Kandahar province's Maiwand district, said provincial spokesman Zalmai Ayubi.

The civilian death toll has climbed along with military casualties amid a summer push into Taliban strongholds in the southern provinces of Kandahar and Helmand. It was not clear if the bombing was targeted or if the bus had struck a bomb planted in the hope of killing NATO or Afghan troops.

To counter an influx of international forces in recent months, the Taliban have stepped up assassination campaigns against government sympathizers and bombings, as well as attacks on government or NATO forces.

Threats have also appeared more frequently in Kabul, the capital to the north. On Sunday, NATO said Afghan and international forces killed an insurgent in the city while pursuing a tip that militants were planning a double suicide bombing.

The man started firing on troops when they searched a neighborhood believed to harbor insurgents, the coalition said in a statement.

Meanwhile, more than 400

demonstrators marched toward the presidential palace in Kabul to protest the alleged killing of 52 civilians by a NATO rocket strike in the south. NATO has disputed the report of civilian deaths.

Afghan and NATO representatives are conducting a joint investigation to find out the truth about the attack in Helmand province's Sangin district, but the Afghans gathered in downtown Kabul said they were sure the international forces were guilty.

They carried photos of children allegedly wounded or killed in the strike and shouted "Death to America! Death to NATO!"

24 remain trapped in flooded China coal mine

BEIJING (AP)—Two dozen workers were trapped in a flooded mine in northeast China on Sunday, the latest accident in the country's notoriously dangerous coal industry.

The State Work Safety Administration has dispatched a team to investigate the Saturday afternoon flood at a mine in Jixi city of Heilongjiang province, said a man at the administration who refused to be identified. No further details were available, he said.

News of the trapped workers came one day after a blast at a workers' dormitory killed at least 17 people in a northern city with a history of deadly mine accidents. The blast left a crater 65 feet (20 meters) across

and about 16 feet (5 meters) deep, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The explosion in the early morning hours on Saturday was blamed on explosives that had been illegally hidden in the area, Xinhua reported, citing a senior official with the mine's owner, Yangquan Coal Industry (Group) Co. Ltd. One person has been detained.

Another seven people were seriously injured in the 2 a.m. blast at the Liugou mine in Linfen city in the northern province of Shanxi, Xinhua said.

It was not clear whether the mine was licensed. China has been trying to improve the safety of its mining industry, which is by

far the world's deadliest, but an unknown number of illegal mines exist to profit off the country's huge appetite for power.

The website of the Yangquan Coal Industry (Group) Co. Ltd says the company is state-owned. Phone calls to the company rang unanswered Sunday.

The gritty city of Linfen is especially well-known for coal mine accidents. The city had nine major coal mine disasters, with more than 10 deaths each, between 2003 and 2008, the China Labour Bulletin reported last year.

The city's most powerful job, that of party secretary, went unfilled for more than six months in 2008 and 2009 as officials appeared to shy away.

Missing Japanese journalists found unresponsive

TOKYO (AP)—Two Japanese journalists reported missing by their television network were found unresponsive on a mountain Sunday, though police said an official declaration of death would have to wait until they could be taken to a hospital.

Nippon Television reporter Yuji Kita and cameraman Jun Kawakami had been on their way to the scene of a helicopter crash that killed five people last weekend. The two men were discovered in a pool of water in a gorge about 980 feet (300 meters) below a mountain trail in Chichibu city, about two hours

northwest of Tokyo.

An official declaration of death could only be made by a doctor, said Kiyomitsu Yashiro, deputy chief of the Chichibu police department. Rescuers were still trying to transport the two journalists from the mountain to a hospital, he said.

The journalists began their trek early Saturday morning. Nippon Television said it contacted authorities after they had not returned in the evening.

The area is not particularly dangerous for regular mountain climbing, Yashiro said, but Kita, 30, and Kawakami, 43,

appeared to have been scaling a steep gorge.

"It quite easy to hit branches or the surrounding walls, so you can assume accidents will occur," he said.

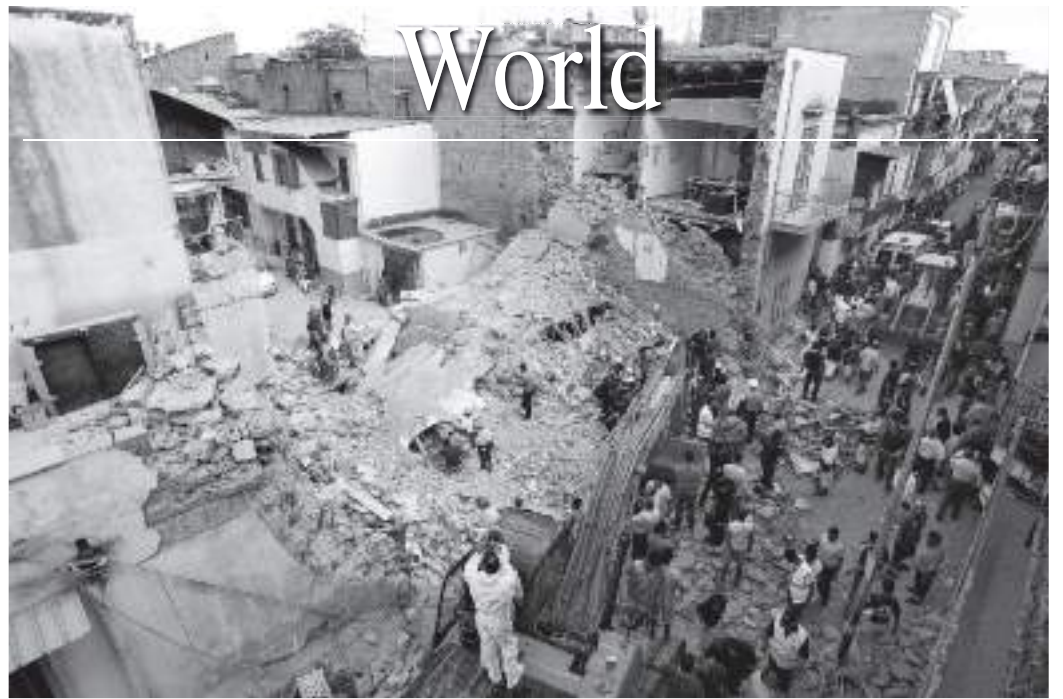
Their goal was to reach the area where a rescue helicopter had crashed last Sunday. The chopper was on its way to aid a fallen climber.

Five of the seven on board were killed, including two pilots, a firefighter and two rescue workers. The 55-year-old female climber, who fell into a waterfall basin the previous day, died later.

The government has deployed more than 30,000 army troops to help with the rescue and relief effort. Authorities had evacuated 19,000 trapped people by Saturday night.

But the U.N. estimated that some 1 million people nationwide were affected by the disaster.

World



BUILDING COLLAPSE

Italian firefighters and rescuers work on the site where an apartment building collapsed, in Afragola, near Naples, southern Italy, Saturday, July 31, 2010. Rescuers say they have pulled the bodies of three people from debris. The building fell apart after 1 a.m. (2300 GMT) Saturday. A 10-year-old girl survived and was able to talk to firefighters from under the rubble before she was pulled out alive after several hours, Naples deputy police chief Peolo Iodice said. It was not immediately clear why the building fell.

AP

'Jailed American admits 5 slays'

PANAMA CITY (AP)—A jailed U.S. man has admitted killing five other Americans so he could take over their businesses and other properties in a Panamanian resort area, a government prosecutor said Saturday.

The man's wife refused to talk with investigators and asked for legal assistance from the U.S. Embassy, the official said. The embassy was closed Saturday and U.S. officials could not be located for comment.

The couple, William Dathan Holbert and Laura Michelle Reese, were arrested earlier this week when they tried to enter Nicaragua from Costa Rica and were sent back to Panama in shackles for questioning in the slayings of two Americans and the disappearances of three other U.S. citizens and two Panamanians.

In testimony Friday, Holbert "acknowledged that he killed

five people" - the five missing American citizens, Assistant Prosecutor Angel Calderon said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

"He has explained what he did, how he did it and why he did it," said Calderon, who added that Holbert denied killing the two missing Panamanians.

Local media reported that a public defender was present for Holbert's questioning, but didn't report the lawyer's name, so no independent comment was available on Calderon's description of the prisoner's statements.

The case began when authorities found the bodies of a woman and a man buried behind a hostel run by Holbert in an area of small islands in Bocas del Toro, a Caribbean archipelago popular with tourists.

The woman was identified as Cheryl Lynn Hughes, 53, a

native of St. Louis, Missouri, who had lived in Panama 10 years and was reported missing by friends and relatives in late March. The man was Bo Icelar, who disappeared in late November and was described by a friend as the former owner of a gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Authorities in North Carolina say Holbert had owned a landscaping business in that U.S. state until six years ago, when he divorced his wife, sold the company and filed for bankruptcy. Holbert disappeared soon after and allegedly sold a house he didn't own and a car he had stolen. Police say he used aliases to elude authorities in at least six states.

Calderon quoted Holbert as saying he established friendships with Icelar and Hughes by posing as a potential investor, then shot each in the head, buried them and took over their money and other properties.

WORLD BRIEFS

Firefighting plane crashes in Canada

VICTORIA, British Columbia (AP)—A Canadian water-bombing plane battling wildfires deep in British Columbia's interior crashed on Saturday, search and rescue officials said. Capt. Marguerite Dodds-Lepinski, the public affairs officer at the province's Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Victoria, said it was believed that the plane had two crew members on board. Their fate is currently unknown. Dodds-Lepinski said two search-and-rescue aircraft from Vancouver Island are on the way to the crash site about 160 miles (260 kilometers) northeast of Vancouver and about 11 miles (18 kilometers) south of the town of Lytton. The plane was chartered by the provincial government from Conair in Abbotsford, British Columbia. Conair spokesman Rick Pedersen said that investigators

from the Transportation Safety Board of Canada would soon be headed to the site.

Iran says 3 Americans should stand trial

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's Foreign Ministry says the three Americans jailed a year ago should stand trial on charges of illegally crossing the country's borders. State media quoted ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast as saying their "violation is obvious" and they should be held accountable. He said Iran is also considering other possible charges against Shane Bauer, Sarah Shourd and Josh Fattal including intentionally acting against Iranian security. No charges have been filed yet. The Americans' families and the U.S. government say the three are innocent and accidentally crossed Iran's border while

hiking in northern Iraq.

Italian group says executions on the rise in Iraq

ROME (AP)—Iraq is now among the world's top executioners for the first time since the 2003 fall of Saddam Hussein, an Italian anti-death penalty group said Saturday, reporting that the number of the country's executions rose dramatically last year. China and Iran are still the world's top two executioners, according to the report released by Hands Off Cain and covering 2009 and the first six months of this year. The group said its estimates were based on reports by media and other rights groups, as the exact number in China and other states is kept secret. China alone accounted for some 5,000 executions, representing 90 percent of the 5,679 capital punishments worldwide.

Pakistanis criticize govt response to floods

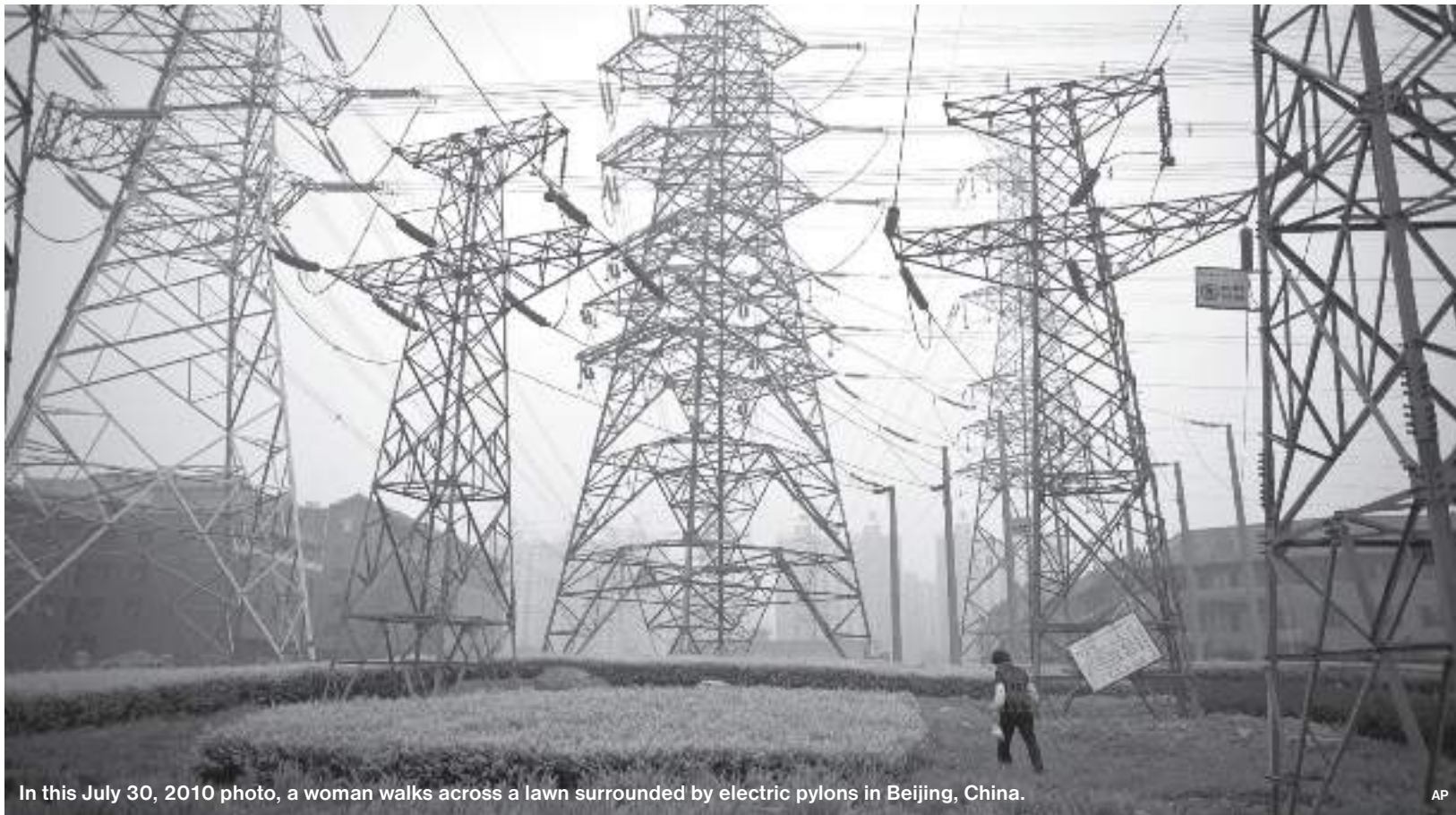
PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Residents of Pakistan's northwest have criticized the government's response to devastating flooding that has killed more than 800 people.

Hakimullah Khan, a resident of Charsadda town, said Sunday that he hasn't received any help

in tracking down his missing wife and three children.

Sehar Ali Shah, who returned to a house filled with water in Nowshera city, complained the government didn't provide evacuees a shelter where they could stay until flood waters recede.

Focus



In this July 30, 2010 photo, a woman walks across a lawn surrounded by electric pylons in Beijing, China.

cally for Chinese customers.

Unlike Japan, which renounced aggressive force after its World War II defeat, Beijing sees itself as Asia's rightful military leader. It has openly possessed nuclear weapons since the 1960s and is spending heavily to build up the Communist Party's military arm, the 2.5 million-soldier People's Liberation Army.

Beijing's military outlays are the world's second-highest and have tripled since 2000 to an estimated \$100 billion last year, though well behind Washington's \$617 billion, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

China's demand for oil, iron ore and other raw materials is pumping money into developing economies as far-flung as Angola and Kazakhstan that supply them. Chinese companies are making inroads into Africa in search of resources and markets.

"Now, Africa has an alternative development model," said Derek Scissors, a Heritage Foundation scholar in Washington. Instead of Western investment with environmental or other strings attached, Scissors said, "they now see the Chinese as an alternative: 'We don't want to deal with you. We'll get some Chinese state-owned company to put \$1.5 billion into this mining project.'"

Chinese pressure helped to trigger the

China setting milestone as economy passes Japan's

By JOE McDONALD
AP BUSINESS WRITER

BEIJING (AP)—China is set to overtake Japan as the world's second-largest economy in a resurgence that is changing everything from the global balance of military and financial power to how cars are designed.

By some measures it has already moved to second place after the U.S. in total economic output—a milestone that would underline a pre-eminence not seen since the 18th century, when the Middle Kingdom last served as Asia's military, technological and cultural power.

China is already the biggest exporter, auto buyer and steel producer, and its worldwide influence is growing. The fortunes of companies from Detroit automakers to Brazilian iron miners depend on spending by China's consumers and corporations. And rising wealth brings political presence: Chinese pressure helped to win developing countries a bigger voice in the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

"Japan was the powerhouse driving the rest of Asia," said Rob Subbaraman, chief Asia economist for Nomura Securities. "Now the tide is turning and China is becoming a powerful influence on the rest of Asia, including Japan."

China's rise has produced glaring contradictions. The wealth gap between an elite who profited most from three decades of reform and its poor majority is so extreme that China has dozens of billionaires while average income for the rest of its 1.3 billion people is among the world's lowest. Beijing has launched two manned space missions and is talking about exporting high-speed trains to California and Europe while families in remote areas live in cave houses cut into hillsides.

Japan's people still are among the world's richest, with a per capita income of \$37,800 last year, compared with China's \$3,600. So are Americans at \$42,240, their economy still by far the biggest. But Japan is trapped in a

two-decade-old economic slump, the U.S. is wrestling with a financial crisis, and China's sheer economic size and the lure of its vast consumer market adds to its clout abroad.

Its explosive growth has driven conflicting shifts in Asia and beyond, triggering a scramble for commercial opportunity but fueling unease that the wealth is helping to finance a military buildup to press the communist government's claims in the region.

"I think everyone in the region is trying to benefit from Chinese economic dynamism but at the same time is trying to make sure China does not become a regional hegemon," said Greg Sheridan, foreign editor of The Australian newspaper.

Exactly when China passes Japan formally will be unclear until after this year ends. It depends on shifting exchange rates and data reported in different forms by the two governments.

Chinese GDP in 2009 was \$4.98 trillion and Japan's was \$5.07 trillion. In 2010, Chinese GDP was \$1.335 trillion for the April-June quarter—a period for which Tokyo has yet to report. China is growing at 10 percent a year, while Japan's expansion this year is forecast at no more than 3 percent.

"On that basis, the crossover probably happened last quarter," said Julian Jessop, chief international economist for Capital Economics in London, in an e-mail.

Beijing appears to take it for granted that it already has overtaken Japan.

"China already is the world's second-biggest economic body," said a deputy central bank governor, Yi Gang, in a policy discussion posted July 30 on the foreign exchange agency's website.

Australia has been one of the biggest beneficiaries as China's voracious appetite for iron ore, coal and other commodities drove a mining boom that kept its economy growing through the global crisis.

That booming trade prompted Australia to reconsider its stance toward China, previously seen as a communist aggressor. In 2008, then-Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, a Mandarin-speaker who was a diplomat in Beijing, called for closer political, eco-

nomic and academic engagement with the Chinese government.

But Rudd also displayed Australia's independence from Beijing by talking about human rights, Tibet and China's Muslim minorities—issues Chinese leaders want other countries to keep quiet about. And Australia affirmed its longtime security alliance with Washington—a counterweight to China's growing might. Rudd's successor, Julia Gillard, has given no sign of a major change of direction.

In the long historical view, China's 21st century rise is a return to the status it held for most of the past 2,000 years as "Zhong Hua," or the Central Brightness, East Asia's economic and military giant and a beacon of technology and elite culture to societies from Vietnam to Korea to Japan.

China's was the biggest economy, with its workshops and textile mills accounting for up to one-third of global manufacturing. But it went into steep decline in the 19th century as its rulers resisted mimicking Japan's embrace of Western technology. By the 1930s, China produced just a few percent of global factory output.

After a civil war, communist takeover and political upheaval, free-enterprise reforms pioneered by leader Deng Xiaoping opened the door for hundreds of millions of Chinese to work their way out of poverty.

Since those reforms began in 1979, China has grown into the world's low-cost factory, its biggest exporter and producer of half its steel. It wants to evolve beyond cheap manufacturing and is trying to build up technology industries but has had little success so far.

Last year, the World Bank ranked China 124th among economies in per capita income, behind Latin America and some African nations, while Japan was No. 32. The United States was 17th.

Yet already, China's consumers are so avidly courted by global companies that products from autos to home appliances destined for sale worldwide are designed with their tastes in mind. This year, French luxury goods maker Hermes Group unveiled a brand, Shang Xia, to be designed specifi-

biggest changes in decades in the U.S.- and European-dominated World Bank and IMF, which agreed to give China, Turkey, Mexico and other developing countries a bigger say in picking leaders and deciding policy.

The boom has helped communist leaders pay to cultivate "soft power"—educational and media activity to win hearts and minds abroad.

Of course, even after slipping to third place, Japan is still rich and comfortable—the Switzerland of Asia.

The society that created hybrid cars and the Walkman has 99 percent literacy and the world's longest life expectancy at 83 years. Tokyo is the capital of fine dining, with more Michelin-starred restaurants than Paris.

Toyota has overtaken General Motors as the biggest global automaker at a time when China companies have yet to establish their own brand names.

Now, with Japan in the rear view mirror, can China catch up with the United States?

Yes, say many analysts.

China could match the U.S. in total output as early as 2020, said a World Bank forecast in June. But still, it said per capita income would be one-fourth the U.S. level, comparable to Malaysia or Latin America.

Achieving even that will require China's unelected, secretive leaders to radically change their state-dominated economy.

They need to promote technology and education, fight rampant corruption that is stoking public anger and resist temptation to favor government-owned companies at the expense of a dynamic private sector that creates jobs and wealth.

Success is far from guaranteed, warn the World Bank and others.

They say China, Mexico and other developing countries easily can stall at middle-income levels if they fail to develop an educated, creative work force and legal systems to support innovation or if they allow entrenched companies to stifle competition.

"Are they going to pass the U.S. in total GDP? Yes, very likely," said Scissors. "Are they going to move into upper-middle-income status? That's a much tougher thing."

Health & Fitness

Beach towel makes snappy workout aid that builds muscle tone

By JEANNINE STEIN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

It may be mid-summer, but some of us aren't quite ready for swim-suits. So grab a towel, head to the beach and ... exercise. Goofy as it sounds, that beach towel comes in handy for a workout.

New York-based fitness consultant and personal trainer Sara Haley devised this beach towel workout out of necessity—both she and her clients travel quite a bit, and gym equipment is often nonexistent. “A circuit is always going to be your most efficient way of working out,” she says, “because it gets everything—cardio and strength. If you have time to do it once, that's great, or you can go through it three or four times and have a great 20-minute workout.”

Instead of counting reps and sets, Haley advises to go by time. People who haven't ex-

ercised in a while can start with 15-second intervals, then progress to 30 seconds, then one minute. If doing multiple sets of exercises to make a longer circuit, don't rest too much in between—just a minute or so.

Doing these exercises on sand will add difficulty. Because the surface is unstable, core muscles have to work harder to keep the body balanced. Wet sand increases the difficulty even more.

But this workout can be done anywhere: a gym, a park, a backyard. “It's fun to do these with a partner,” Haley says, “and make it a little bit of a contest.”

Tiptoe runs

Run back and forth over the towel while on the balls of your feet. This works the calves and quadriceps, and maintaining balance while running works the core muscles. To make it a little easier, you can run toe-heel, toe-heel.

For the first half, start with the left foot, going left-right across the towel and left-right back down. Halfway through the exercise, switch and start with the right foot. Go for speed—the faster you move, the more calories you'll burn and the better your agility will be.

Moving tree

Stand on one leg and bring the other leg up and bend it so the foot is resting above or below the knee, not directly on the knee. The bent leg is extended out to the side. Hold the towel overhead in both hands and think about pulling it apart, engaging the back muscles and retracting the shoulders.

Reach the torso toward the bent leg, going up and over—lift the torso and keep it long. Don't collapse into your rib cage. The hips stay centered and do not move. Squeeze the glutes as you reach, then slowly come

back to the starting position. If you're doing this in sand, it's OK to grip the sand with your toes to maintain your balance. After 30 seconds, switch legs and repeat the exercise.

To modify this exercise, bend one leg and place just the toe on the floor, with the heel up. Shorten the range of motion on the bend until your core muscles are stronger and your balance has improved.

Hippety-hop

Place the towel vertically to the right of you. Standing with feet together, bend the knees and tuck the arms back. Hop over the towel, allowing the arms to swing

up; and land toe-heel, with soft knees. Don't land on flat feet—even on sand it's quite an impact. This is a great cardiovascular challenge, and you can make it more difficult by picking up the pace and kicking your feet back as you hop.

The idea is to take off as quickly as you can after you land, allowing the muscles to engage. This is also a plyometric exercise, a dynamic move that trains fast-twitch muscles and also helps build bone density. This exercise also works the outer thighs.

Triceps pulse

Stand with feet shoulder-width

apart and bend the knees slightly. Bend forward at the waist, making sure the head is aligned with the spine. Hold the towel with both hands behind your back, arms straight but not locked at the elbows, palms facing away from the body.

Raise the arms a few inches and do several little pulses, keeping the shoulders square and focusing on the triceps muscles in the back of the arm. Complete the range of motion by bringing the arms back down to the starting position. When you raise the arms, don't go so high that you feel a strain or pinch in the shoulders.

Full face transplant Spaniard displays new look

By DANIEL WOOLLS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MADRID (AP)—A Spanish man who underwent the world's first full face transplant appeared before TV cameras Monday for the first time since his surgery, thanking his doctors and the family of the donor.

Identified only as Oscar, the 31-year-old spoke with considerable difficulty at a news conference at Barcelona's Vall d'Hebron hospital, where he was operated on in late March.

During the 24-hour surgery, doctors lifted an entire face, including jaw, nose, cheekbones, muscles, teeth and eyelids, and placed it masklike onto the man. He has been described as a farmer who was unable to breathe or eat on his own after accidentally shooting himself in the face five years ago.

The head of the surgical team, Dr. Joan Pere Barret, said Monday that Oscar will need between a year and 18 months of physical therapy and is expected to regain up to 90 percent of his facial functions. He



In this undated combo photo released by Vall d'Hebron Hospital, Oscar, a man who underwent a full-face transplant in April appears before, left, and after, right, the surgery at the Vall d'Hebron Hospital in Barcelona, Spain.

is now being released from the hospital and sent home.

He is able to drink liquids and eat soft foods, and has been able to speak for the past two months, the hospital said in a statement. The patient also has regained feeling in most of his face and is partly recovering movement of his muscles. One good sign was that a week after the operation, he had to be shaved because of

beard growth.

But he also suffered acute rejection twice—once four weeks after the surgery and again between the second and third months. Both times, the new face was saved with medication, the statement said.

At the news conference, Oscar seemed relaxed as he looked out at reporters with eyes he cannot yet close completely.

Japanese women extend life expectancy to new high

By MARI YAMAGUCHI
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese women are expected to live almost 86 1/2 years, topping the world longevity ratings for the 25th straight year, the government reported Monday.

The statistics for 2009 compiled and published by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare showed both Japanese women and men extended their average life expectancy to new records—86.44 years for women and 79.59 years for men. Average life spans rose by almost five months for women and nearly four months for men compared to the previous year.

Japanese men, however, saw their average life expectancy

slip to fifth from fourth in the world ranking, according to a ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, citing department rules.

Long life is usually good news. But in a country with a low birth rate and declining population, longer life expectancies mean a disproportionately large elderly population. The graying of society is expected in the near future to strain government services and pension programs, while causing labor shortages.

The steady increase in Japan's longevity largely reflects good medical treatment that reduced the mortality from cancer, cardiac disorders and strokes—the three main causes of death in Japan—as well as pneumonia, the ministry official said. Health

officials often cite Japan's relatively healthy diet and high living standards as contributing to growing longevity.

But an increasing number of suicides among elderly men dealt a slight setback for male longevity, he said. Suicide, crime and alcoholism among the elderly have become growing problems because of low income and unstable employment.

Women in Hong Kong came in second in the world's longevity ranking at 86.1 years. France was third, at 84.5, followed by Switzerland at 84.4 years. Qatar topped the men's ranking at 81 years, followed by Hong Kong at 79.8 years, with Iceland and Switzerland sharing the third spot at 79.7 years.

Personal Trainer

Losing water as sweat

Some people feel thirsty when they start becoming dehydrated, and some seldom do. How to determine which type you are:

- 1** Weigh yourself on accurate scales
- 2** Exercise for an hour or more without drinking anything, and weigh yourself wearing the same shoes and clothes as before
- 3** Calculate how much weight you lost and what percentage of your body weight that equals

Did you feel thirsty?

If so, at what point during the workout was it?

If not, had you lost a significant amount of water without knowing it?

Water lost (Approximate figures)	
1 lb. (500 g)	2 cups (500 ml)
2 lb. (1 kg)	1 qt. (1 liter)
4 lb. (2 kg)	2 qt. (2 l)

Heavy water loss

Exercising 30 minutes in warm, humid weather or wearing heavy padding, you can lose more than 1 qt. (1 l) or 2 lb. (1 kg) of water as sweat

Why it matters

Sweating away 2% to 3% in body weight

Sweating away 5% or more

Reduces aerobic ability by more than 10%

Creates significant risk of heat stroke

Graphic: Paul Trap

© 2010 MCT Source: Nicholas Institute of Sports Medicine and Athletic Trauma

Life & Style

Chelsea Clinton weds at exclusive New York estate



In this photo provided by Genevieve de Manio Photography, Chelsea Clinton and Marc Mezvinsky are seen during their wedding, Saturday, July 31, 2010 in Rhinebeck, N.Y. Chelsea Clinton wed her longtime boyfriend under extraordinary security at an elegant Hudson River estate late Saturday.

By **MICHAEL HILL**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

RHINEBECK, N.Y. (AP)—Chelsea Clinton wed her longtime boyfriend under extraordinary security at an elegant Hudson River estate late Saturday.

Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton announced in a statement that their daughter wed investment banker Marc Mezvinsky after weeks of secrecy and buildup that had celebrity watchers flocking to the small village of Rhinebeck for the evening nuptials. The site of the wedding, a Beaux Arts riverside estate called Astor Courts, was sealed off from the general public.

"Today, we watched with great pride and overwhelming emotion as Chelsea and Marc wed in a beautiful ceremony at Astor Courts, surrounded by family and their close friends," the Clintons said. "We could not have asked for a more perfect day to celebrate the beginning of their life together, and we are so happy to welcome Marc into our family. On behalf of the newlyweds, we want to give special thanks to the people of Rhinebeck for welcoming us and to everyone for their well-wishes on this special day."

Chelsea Clinton, wearing a strapless white gown with a full skirt and silver beading around the waist and carrying a bouquet of white flowers, was escorted down the aisle by her father. The former president and the groom wore dark suits, while the mother of the bride wore a fuchsia dress.

It is estimated that hundreds of guests gathered at the historic estate near the end of a near-perfect summer day of warm temperatures, blue skies and cottony clouds. The ceremony was conducted by a rabbi and a reverend as Chelsea Clinton is Methodist and

Mezvinsky is Jewish, and included a poem by Leo Marks titled, "The Life That I Have," according to the family.

The wedding was a mix of high society and high security. The road to Astor Courts was blocked off Saturday—neighbors received bottles of wine for their troubles—and the sky above was declared a no-fly zone by federal aviation officials. Police and security guards fanned out around this usually sleepy town.

Consistent with Chelsea Clinton's desire for privacy, the family had released no details of the wedding beyond the date. But the scope of the event became apparent when more than a half-dozen busloads of wedding guests—men in black tie, women in dresses—were transported from a hotel in the village to the riverside ceremony as gawkers looked on.

Celebrities spotted in Rhinebeck for the event included actors Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen, fashion designer Vera Wang, Madeleine Albright, who was secretary of state during Bill Clinton's second term as president and Terry McAuliffe, former Democratic National Committee chairman. The former president's half brother, Roger Clinton, was spotted early Saturday afternoon with his son Tyler, picking up food at a restaurant.

Danson and Steenburgen said they were excited about the upcoming ceremony as they strolled through Rhinebeck toward one of the hotels being

used for the wedding.

"I knew her since she was a baby so this is a big moment," said Steenburgen, who wed Danson in 1995. "She's a lovely, lovely girl."

Reporters, who had been searching for celebrities in vain for most of the day, quickly zeroed in on the couple, prompting Danson to ask, "Are we the only celebrities in town?"

Celebrity seekers jockeyed with reporters for sidewalk space over most of the day too. Donna Vena drove 50 miles to Rhinebeck from her home of Mount Kisco, N.Y., in the hopes

of spotting a celebrity.

"Why not?" she asked Saturday morning, a camera slung over her shoulder. "Big story. Maybe see Oprah."

Nearby, two young women passed out slices of pizza with "I do" written in pepperoni.

Hundreds of people gathered outside the hotel where many of the guests are staying were rewarded Friday night when the Clintons exited a van arm-in-arm outside the Beekman Arms Hotel.

Shortly before 11 p.m., the former first lady, wearing a long green dress, waved to

the cheering crowd waiting behind metal barricades and quickly went into the hotel. She left with the former president about a half-hour later.

Earlier Friday, Bill Clinton made an appearance around lunchtime, popping out of a car and walking a few blocks, greeting people on his way to a restaurant. Looking fit and relaxed in blue jeans and a black knit shirt, he gave easy answers to questions shouted by well-wishers and reporters.

Chelsea Clinton and Mezvinsky were friends as teenagers in Washington, and both

attended Stanford University. They now live in New York, where Mezvinsky works at G3 Capital, a Manhattan hedge fund. Mezvinsky worked previously at Goldman Sachs as an investment banker.

Clinton completed her master's degree in public health earlier this year at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.

Mezvinsky is a son of former U.S. Reps. Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky of Pennsylvania and Ed Mezvinsky of Iowa, longtime friends of the Clintons. His parents are divorced.

1st Death Anniversary Rita Hocog Inos, Ed.D

In commemorating her First Death Anniversary, we invite friends, relatives and acquaintances to join us in our prayers in the following:

August 2 to August 9, 2010

6:30 p.m. Rosary at San Isidro Church,
Sinapalu, Rota

7:00 p.m. Mass at San Isidro Church,
Sinapalu, Rota

August 2-10, 2010

5:30 a.m. Mass at San Jose Church

6:00 a.m. Mass at San Antonio Church

August 10, 2010

5:30 a.m. Rosary at San Francisco de
Borja Church, Songsong, Rota

6:00 a.m. Mass at San Francisco de Borja
Church, Songsong, Rota

We thank you for your thoughts, participation and prayers.

*Chris (husband), Denise Lorraine, Ana Blossom
(daughters) and Isa (granddaughter).*



Ghostly tale spells a new phase for Radcliffe

By GEOFF BOUCHER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Daniel Radcliffe's next magic trick will be his hardest—can he successfully disappear into a new starring film role after a decade as Harry Potter? On July 26, just three days removed from his 21st birthday, the actor seemed eager for the challenge even though his thoughts kept drifting back to Hogwarts.

"Working is how I will best get through a very weird time," Radcliffe said. "I know it's the most constructive thing I can do because otherwise I'd be moping around and being a bit like, 'Oh, I miss everyone ...' So I'm quite pleased to go on to the next thing and the next challenge."

The "next challenge" is actually a list of things. Radcliffe will appear on Broadway in the spring in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" (he was fresh from dance class, in fact, when he spoke by phone from London), and he is attached to three film projects. First among these movies to reach the screen will be the just-announced adaptation of "The Woman in Black," the spooky 1983 suspense novel by Susan Hill that is best known for inspiring a popular stage version—it's been playing on London's West End since June 1989 and, yes, that means the production is a month older than Radcliffe.

The novel presents a small English town where terrible things happen to children, and they always follow the appearance of a spectral woman in widow's garb. Radcliffe said the script by Jane Goldman ("Kick-Ass," "Stardust") digs up beyond-the-grave themes that are far more unnerving than Halloween visions of the "Potter" films and that director James Watkins ("Eden Lake") is intent on finding the heartache inside the horror.

"When I met first met James Watkins, our director, he told me about a quote of Stanley Kubrick's, which was that all films about the afterlife or ghosts are innately consoling," Radcliffe said. "I think there's something about that that is very true to our story. While it is a horror story and it is very frightening, it's also about loss and grief. I read it on a plane, and I don't know what the people around me must have thought. I kept jumping and gasping."

Radcliffe, who begins shooting the film this fall, will be on-screen in al-



Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint), Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) and Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) at the pre-launch photocall for "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," October 25, 2005 in London, England. (Ide) 2005

most every scene, and it will be the first true test of his ability to carry a movie in which he doesn't wave a wand.

"People really have only ever seen my face with glasses on it ... that's going to change in this movie," said Radcliffe, who's also attached to a new version of "All Quiet on the Western Front" as well as "The Journey Is the Destination," the story of slain photo-journalist Dan Eldon.

It might be hard for some to see Radcliffe as another character, with or without spectacles. The six "Harry Potter" films to date have pulled in \$5.3 billion in worldwide box office, and there are two installments left, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" in November and "Part 2" in July 2011. Radcliffe says his preparations for "The Woman in Black" have helped him avoid the full emotional impact of leaving his decade-long role and costars Emma Watson and Rupert Grint.

"We, all three of us—me, Rupert and Emma—we just wept," Radcliffe said of June 12, the final day on the set of the last "Potter" film.

As Radcliffe walks away from the last decade's shining success of the British film community—the "Potter" movies were filmed in England by local crews and starred several generations of top British and Irish actors—he steps into a project that taps into an older and edgier part of U.K. cinema lore: "The Woman in Black" is being made under the banner of Hammer Film Productions, the most revered brand name in European horror, which is coming back from the grave after three decades without a feature-film release.

Radcliffe, a student of British stage and film, is eager to be part of the resurrection of Hammer. The studio dates back to 1937 but really began carving out its reputation with the release of "The Curse of Frankenstein" in 1957 and "Horror of Dracula" the following year.

"It does bring a smile to my face, and it's an absolutely genuine smile," Radcliffe said. "Hammer is the company that everybody wants to see succeed. It's such a part of our film heritage. It was a massive producer of films in

its heyday—they were really prolific, there were tons of them—and with actors like Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing. It's wonderful to see that company, that name, in a resurgence."

The resurgence begins with the October release of the wintry vampire tale "Let Me In," directed by Matt Reeves ("Cloverfield") and starring Chloe Moretz ("Kick-Ass") and Kodi Smit-McPhee ("The Road"). Hammer also recently wrapped production on "The Resident," which stars two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank and Jeffrey Dean Morgan ("Watchmen"). (Lee also appears in the film.)

Hammer Chief Executive Simon Oakes said some recent compass points for the reconstituted Hammer and its ethos might be "The Sixth Sense," "The Others," "The Orphanage" and "Let the Right One In," the Swedish film that is being remade in English as "Let Me In." He said that sets the horror-house apart from the shock-and-splatter "Saw" and "Hostel" crowd of today.

"We'd like to try to re-ennoble the horror film—it's 'smart' horror, if you like, intelligent films that are not gore-nography, as I call it, and have good story lines that attract talent and are relevant to a modern audience," Oakes said.

"It's a much-loved and revered brand, certainly in the U.K., but like many of these things, people have a nostalgic love affair with it and they're not entirely sure why. There are some people who are not old enough to remember the films, and some are old enough but only remember the good ones and don't remember the not-so-good ones."

Hammer's "Woman in Black" will get a major spotlight due to its star, but some of it will be the glare of skepticism. Will Radcliffe's face—so familiar after a decade of "Potter" lunch boxes, pajamas and action figures—make some moviegoers snicker when they should shiver?

Radcliffe points out that he plays a troubled father, not a magic orphan, and that gives him a foothold to step away from the "Potter" image that has dominated his public persona.

"It worries me, but the challenge is to look like a dad and a young father. If I get that right, that is something that immediately separates me from Harry," Radcliffe said. "The script is so good and the characters are so clear, there is actually reduced pressure on me to be constantly 'different,' if you know what I mean; in other words, once people are into the story, they'll be watching this really compelling movie and will stop—I hope—thinking about me."

Goldman, who calls the Hill novel "the perfect ghost story, a fresh and original story that has the literary touchstones of Victorian literature," says the movie will be remembered as the project that drew a line between Radcliffe's youthful past and his mature future.

"I think there's a clear-cut demarcation," Goldman said. "He was playing a boy in the 'Potter' films, or perhaps a young adult. Here, he's playing a man. Also I think in general today audiences know actors much more as individuals; there's an awareness of them apart from their roles. Dan is a brilliant actor, and he's much more than the person who played Harry Potter."

Japanese user claims Twitter's 20 billionth tweet

By TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

TOKYO (AP)—Twitter's 20 billionth message didn't make much sense, but it spoke volumes about the rapid global growth of the microblogging service.

It came at 12:44 a.m. Sunday (1544 GMT, 11:44 a.m. EDT Saturday) from user "GGGGGGo-Lets-Go" in Japan, where Twitter has exploded in popularity over the last year. The San Francisco-based company estimates the Japanese send nearly 8 million tweets a day, about 12 percent of the global total and second only to the United States.

The tweet itself is hard to decipher, since it appears to be part of a longer conversation between two users.

"So that means the barrage might

come back later all at once," wrote the declared graphic designer and avid fan of the Tokyo Yakult Swallows baseball team in Japanese.

It didn't take long before GGGGGGo-Lets-Go was inundated with congratulatory messages from around the world for hitting the social networking milestone. The user bio changed shortly thereafter.

"I'm grateful and humbled by those who are visiting because of my 20 billionth tweet. Be warned, I tweet a lot about baseball."

While it took Twitter four years to reach tweet number 10 billion earlier this year in March, it took less than five months to double the figure thanks to its increasing popularity worldwide.

Twitter Chief Executive Evan Williams traveled to Tokyo earlier this

month to celebrate its success in Japan.

"We've come a long way in two years especially in Japan," he told an enthusiastic crowd of about 500.

Japanese Twitter users set a world record when the whistle blew in the World Cup game in which Japan beat Denmark at 3,283 tweets per second, mostly believed to have been Japanese. About 16 percent of Japanese Internet users tweet, surpassing the 9.8 percent of online Americans.

The company launched a Japanese language version in 2008 and released a mobile site in October.

One reason Twitter has been popular in Japan is that it's possible to say much more in Japanese within the 140-character limit. The word "magazine," for example requires just two letters in Japanese.

Prosecutor makes new claim in Anna Nicole case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A prosecutor sprang a surprise claim Friday that Anna Nicole Smith was a co-conspirator in the actions that have brought her two doctors and lawyer-boyfriend to trial for over-prescribing and obtaining massive amounts of prescription drugs.

"I think it's obvious she was part of the conspiracy because she wanted this medication," Deputy District Attorney Renee Rose said during a pre-trial hearing.

"It's a surprise to me," said Superior Court Judge Robert Perry. "It's a different situation if she's orchestrating it."

Rose responded, "There's no reason for a doctor to overprescribe if she is not asking for it."

It was unclear how the claim of Smith's involvement could affect the case. Perry, however, said he was not going to dismiss any charges at this

time against the defendants.

Dr. Sandeep Kapoor, Dr. Kristine Eroshevich and Howard Stern have pleaded not guilty to conspiring to illegally provide the former Playboy model with opiates and sedatives. They are not charged in the overdose death of Smith in 2007 in Florida.

Rose alleged in court that Smith had e-mailed Bonnie Stern, the sister of Howard Stern, asking for medication to be delivered to Smith in the Bahamas. The e-mails between Smith and Bonnie Stern were found on Smith's computer after she died, Rose said.

Rose wants to introduce the e-mails as evidence at the upcoming trial and believes she can do that if she names Smith and Bonnie Stern as uncharged co-conspirators in the case.

A telephone listing could not be found for Bonnie Stern. Efforts to reach her were unsuccessful.



Gibson's ex-girlfriend urges him 'tell the truth'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mel Gibson's ex-girlfriend says she's the victim of a "smear campaign" and never tried to extort money from the Oscar-winning star.

In a video interview posted Friday on RadarOnline.com, Oksana Grigorieva says she's been "victimized all over again"

In this April 19, 2010 file photo, Mel Gibson's ex-girlfriend, Russian-born singer, songwriter Oksana Grigorieva, talks during a news conference in Moscow. AP

by speaking out about her troubles with Gibson. She accuses him of "trivializing domestic violence" and urges him to "tell the truth."

The Russian singer and mother of Gibson's youngest child says the now-infamous tapes allegedly of the filmmaker threatening Grigorieva were all recorded on one night, and that she recorded the calls because she feared for her life.

Gibson met with sheriff's detectives last week to discuss his claims of extortion against his ex. The sheriff's department is also investigating claims by Grigorieva that Gibson abused her during a January confrontation.

Spokesman: Gabor to go home from hospital Friday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Doctors plan to let Zsa Zsa Gabor return home Friday, about three weeks after the 93-year-old actress was hospitalized with a broken hip.

Gabor's publicist, John

Blanchette, said Saturday that she would spend the rest of the week receiving physical therapy.

Gabor's husband, Prince Frederick von Anhalt, told Blanchette that the actress was joking with nurses but that she appeared de-

pressed. He hoped the return home would restore her spirit.

Blanchette says Gabor broke her hip July 17 as she was lifting herself from bed into a wheel chair that tipped over. The Hun-

garian-born actress' condition began to deteriorate after hip-replacement surgery days later.

Blanchette says von Anhalt bought the actress a hospital bed and was arranging for home care.

Heidi Montag files for divorce from Spencer Pratt

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Fifteen months after saying "I do," reality TV stars Heidi Montag and Spencer Pratt are headed for divorce. The 23-year-old starlet and plastic surgery devotee filed for divorce Friday in Santa Monica, Calif., citing irreconcilable differences.

Representatives for Montag and Pratt did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Montag began dating the 26-year-old Pratt while filming MTV's reality show "The Hills." The couple's April 2009 wedding was featured on the show.

Court documents show the two were legally married May 25, 2009, and separated on their one-year anniversary.

The media-hungry pair published a book together last year: "How to Be Famous: Our Guide to Looking the Part, Playing the Press, and Becoming a Tabloid Fixture."



In this Nov. 16, 2009 file photo, Heidi Montag, left, and Spencer Pratt pose at a book signing event for their book "How To Be Famous" at Borders Books in New York. AP

Montag filed for a legal separation on June 8, which some dismissed as a publicity stunt.

In the divorce filing, she asked the court to deny spousal support to Pratt. The couple have no children.

Snooki of 'Jersey Shore' arrested in NJ beach town

SEASIDE HEIGHTS, N.J. (AP)—"Jersey Shore" cast member Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi has been arrested in the New Jersey beach town where the MTV show is based.

Seaside Heights Police Chief Thomas Boyd says Polizzi was arrested at around 3:25 p.m. Friday and charged with disorderly conduct after other beachgoers reported she was bothering them.

Polizzi was processed at police headquarters and released on a summons.

MTV spokeswoman Emily Yeomans declined comment on the arrest, which came one day after the premiere of the show's second season.

Telephone messages left for SallyAnn Salsano, executive producer at "Jersey Shore" production company 495 Productions, and Pam LaLima, co-executive producer, were not immediately returned.

The show focuses on the



"Jersey Shore" cast member Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi leaves the Seaside Heights Police Department after being detained Friday July 30, 2010 in Seaside Heights, N.J. AP

escapades of a group of hard-partying, 20-something Italian-Americans at a shore house.

Terrence Howard to join 'Law & Order: Los Angeles'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—"Law & Order: Los Angeles" is getting another big-name prosecutor.

Oscar-nominated Terrence Howard is joining the cast of the new NBC drama and will rotate with co-star Alfred Molina as deputy district attorney, series creator Dick Wolf told the Television Critics Association on Friday.

"I feel like manager of the 1961 Yankees. I have my Mantle and Maris," Wolf said, refer-

ring to famed sluggers Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris.

Howard, an Oscar nominee for "Hustle & Flow," also has appeared in the films "Iron Man," "Crash" and "Ray."

Also joining the cast is Corey Stoll, who will play a police detective. Stoll appears in the new Angelina Jolie film "Salt" and guest-starred in the

"Law & Order."

His character is partner to Skeet Ulrich's detective.

Wolf was circumspect about the demise of the original "Law & Order" series, which was canceled by NBC after a 20-year run that tied the record set by "Gunsmoke" but lost the chance to break it.

"That's business. That's life. Everything on TV is born under a death sen-



Howard

original

on TV is born under a death sen-

Dogs kept in locked cars can't take summertime heat

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Summer is the season for celebration—beach trips, picnics in the park and barbecues. But it can be a dangerous time for dogs.

Every year, thousands of dogs die after being left in overheated parked cars. Heatstroke can come on quickly and result in brain damage or death. Dogs are prone to heatstroke because they can cool themselves only by panting and sweating through their paw pads.

If you see a dog left in a car on a warm day, take down the car's color, model, make and license plate number. Have the owner paged inside nearby stores and call local humane authorities or the police.

If you see a dog exhibit any of the following symptoms: restlessness, excessive thirst, a rapid pulse, heavy panting, lethargy, lack of appetite, dark tongue, rapid heartbeat, fever, vomiting or lack of coordination—get the animal into the shade immediately and call the veterinarian.

YOU can save a dog's life!

LAURIE IN MILWAUKEE

DEAR LAURIE: Thank you for an important letter. I recently read that so far this year, 19 CHILDREN have died after being left in automobiles! During the summer months, leaving any living creature in a car—even with the windows cracked—is an invitation to a heart-wrenching tragedy.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 15 years. My parents did not attend my wedding because my mother's job was more important—so my father never walked me down the aisle.

My brother is now being married for the first time. It will be his fiancée's third trip to the altar. Her father died years ago and they have asked my father to walk her down the aisle without even considering how I might feel about it.

When I explained to Dad how hurt I feel, he didn't understand. But he told me he would not walk her down the aisle if it caused me pain. Now my brother and his fiancée are upset with me.

Abby, can a groom's father give away the woman his son is about to marry? Am I being selfish in suggesting she walk down the aisle by herself just as I did?

RESENTFUL IN MICHIGAN

DEAR RESENTFUL: The answer to both of your questions is yes.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My 8-year-old daughter "Gwen" has friends whose parents allow them to watch movies I prefer my daughter not see—specifically, scary movies. The parents of one of the girls have invited Gwen to a sleepover. I have been making excuses because I don't want Gwen having nightmares.

Would it be wrong or impolite to tell these parents that I don't want her watching scary movies? I don't want to appear to be dictating to them what they can or can't allow their children to see in their own home. How should this be handled?

PROTECTIVE MOM, MUSTANG, OKLA.

DEAR PROTECTIVE MOM: Be upfront with the mother who will be hosting the sleepover. Tell her that you know Gwen would love to participate, but that you prefer that she not see scary films. If the mother can guarantee that none will be viewed that night, give your permission. Making your preference known is neither rude nor overbearing, so speak up.

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

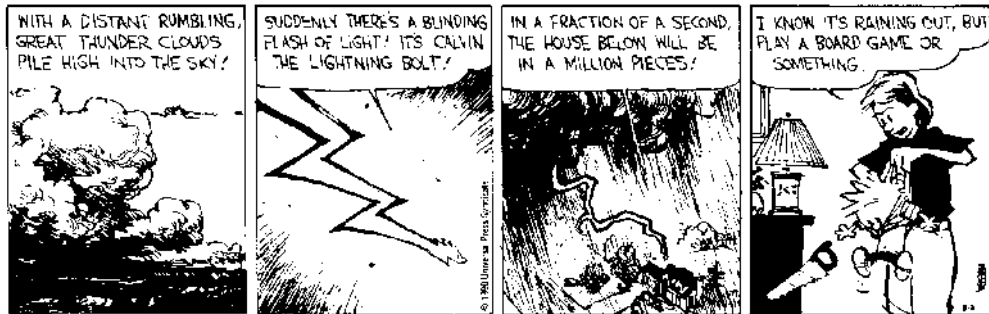
■ ■ ■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



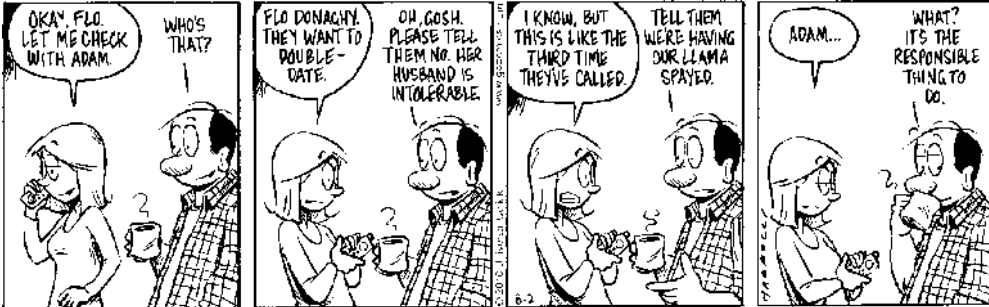
Garfield

By Jim Davis



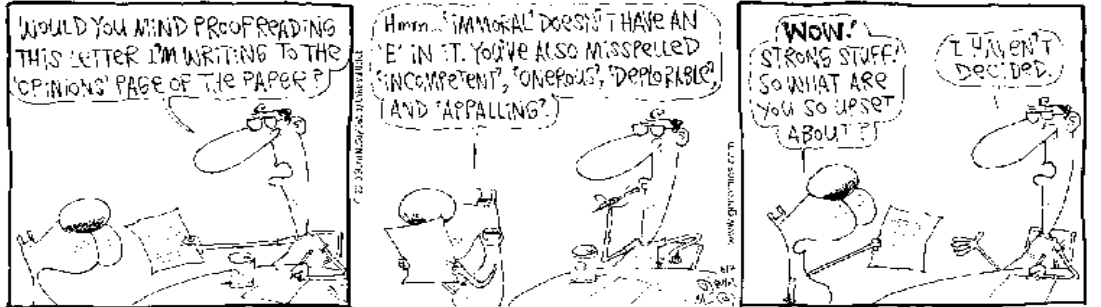
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Reed cereal
5 Legislator
8 Parks of fame
12 Part of Dante's "Divine Comedy"
14 Grand story
15 Sea in the North Atlantic
16 Valley
17 Mouth part
18 Resides
20 Vaults
23 Wan
24 Raw minerals
25 Accomplish
28 Perch
29 Heron's cousin
30 A Gabor sister
32 Not intact
34 Profil
35 Blunders
36 Not flat, as terrain

DOWN

1 Chances for short
2 Sheepish remark?
3 Bobby of hockey
4 "Hotel California" band
5 Speech impediment
6 Fool
7 Idiomatic site of discipline
8 Late night flight
9 October birthstone
10 Ledge
11 High cards
13 Lactern locale
19 Tiny amount
20 "Help!"
21 Saharan
22 Greek cheese
23 Farm measures
25 Distress
26 Scallopini meat
27 Superbad?
29 Noble title
31 Whatever number
33 Dis- arrange
34 "— this day our daily bread"
36 Injure
37 Cattle calls?
38 Caspian Sea feeder
39 Reverberate
40 Agile
43 Part of R.S.V.P.
44 Drunkard
45 Away from NNW
46 "Alley —"

Solution time: 24 mins.

ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1. REED, 5. LEGISLATOR, 8. PARKS OF FAME, 12. PART OF DANTE'S "DIVINE COMEDY", 14. GRAND STORY, 15. SEA IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, 16. VALLEY, 17. MOUTH PART, 18. RESIDES, 20. VAULTS, 23. WAN, 24. RAW MINERALS, 25. ACCOMPLISH, 28. PERCH, 29. HERON'S COUSIN, 30. A GABOR SISTER, 32. NOT INTACT, 34. PROFIL, 35. BLUNDERS, 36. NOT FLAT, AS TERRAIN.

DOWN: 1. CHANCES FOR SHORT, 2. SHEEPISH REMARK?, 3. BOBBY OF HOCKEY, 4. "HOTEL CALIFORNIA" BAND, 5. SPEECH IMPEDIMENT, 6. FOOL, 7. IDIOMATIC SITE OF DISCIPLINE, 8. LATE NIGHT FLIGHT, 9. OCTOBER BIRTHSTONE, 10. LEDGE, 11. HIGH CARDS, 13. LACTERN LOCALE, 19. TINY AMOUNT, 20. "HELP!", 21. SAHARAN, 22. GREEK CHEESE, 23. FARM MEASURES, 25. DISTRESS, 26. SCALLOPINI MEAT, 27. SUPERBAD?, 29. NOBLE TITLE, 31. WHATEVER NUMBER, 33. DIS- ARRANGE, 34. "— THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD", 36. INJURE, 37. CATTLE CALLS?, 38. CASPIAN SEA FEEDER, 39. REVERBERATE, 40. AGILE, 43. PART OF R.S.V.P., 44. DRUNKARD, 45. AWAY FROM NNW, 46. "ALLEY —".

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Hallie Eisenberg, 18; Edward Furlong, 33; Mary-Louise Parker, 46; Peter O'Toole, 78

Happy Birthday: Sitting back, waiting for things to happen, should not be your approach. This is a year to advance but it will only happen if you are enthusiastic about what needs to be done to get to where you want to be. Discipline, hard work and a definite plan will all play a major role in your success. Your numbers are 1, 6, 14, 25, 27, 34, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Focus on how you can be more effective at work. It's what you can produce that will grab attention and help you advance. Don't let the uncertainty going on around you deter your own progress or cause you to feel discouraged. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your confidence may cause you to miss something going on that can hurt your position or your reputation. Talks will allow you to get a better perspective on what you are facing. Protect your interests and your assets. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let anyone discourage you from doing what you feel is right and best for everyone involved. A love problem may end up being costly if you don't address whatever issues are bothering you openly before matters escalate. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep on top of what everyone else does and says and you will avoid difficult to handle surprises. Being practical, patient and efficient will keep you out of the clutches of someone trying to take over or challenge your position. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Focus on what you can do, not what you can't. Not everyone will be on your side or looking out for your best interests, especially when it comes to work and money matters. Be smart about a change of position. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Start something new or pick up a skill that will enhance what you have to offer. Uncertainty regarding a contract, financial deal or settlement must not cause insecurity. It's being able to adapt that will prove you are a worthy candidate for advancement. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put your efforts into home improvements and helping others. Watch your cash transactions carefully. Don't let someone else's problems turn into your responsibility. Be honest about your thoughts and intentions. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A partnership can help you finish a project you have not been able to finish on your own. Asking for favors isn't your usual way of going about getting what you want, but this time it will be necessary. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Work from home if possible. The problems that stem from being in a group will cause you to accomplish little. A connection you make through networking, travel or an old friend will help you realize what you can accomplish and how. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't feel pressured to move too fast, especial-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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ly if it has to do with money. Changes at home look appealing and property purchases or investing will turn out favorably. Don't rely on what anyone else does or says. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be fooled by what someone tells you. People from your past will try to make you change your ways. Don't pay for other people's mistakes or fall into old traps because of an emotional attachment. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on relationships both old and new. There will be a chance to revitalize something you left undone. Getting to know someone all over again will allow you both to see how much you've grown. ****

Birthday Baby: You are interesting and a born leader. You are adaptable, persistent and persuasive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

ANSWERS:

ACROSS: 1. REED, 5. LEGISLATOR, 8. PARKS OF FAME, 12. PART OF DANTE'S "DIVINE COMEDY", 14. GRAND STORY, 15. SEA IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, 16. VALLEY, 17. MOUTH PART, 18. RESIDES, 20. VAULTS, 23. WAN, 24. RAW MINERALS, 25. ACCOMPLISH, 28. PERCH, 29. HERON'S COUSIN, 30. A GABOR SISTER, 32. NOT INTACT, 34. PROFIL, 35. BLUNDERS, 36. NOT FLAT, AS TERRAIN.

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	1	6	4	2	8	9	7	3
9	2	7	1	5	3	6	8	4
8	4	3	6	9	7	1	5	2
4	6	8	9	1	5	3	2	7
1	7	2	3	8	6	4	9	5
3	9	5	2	7	4	8	1	6
2	3	9	7	6	1	5	4	8
6	8	1	5	4	2	7	3	9
7	5	4	8	3	9	2	6	1

Difficulty Level ★

8/02

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID QUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the "Wonderword."

AT THE FLEA MARKET

Solution: 5 letters

C S E I R O M E M E R O T S S
I T C M S T S D R O C E R S S
S N A I A R D E V I C E E E N
S A S P N G O C I A B R L N I
A P S T P O A O O T D B L I P
L L V T R L R Z D O I L A S I
C O B I R U I T I T K D M U C
K B Y U N A M A C N U W D B T
L S R S M Y N E N E E O A O U
A O E E E T L G N C L S M R R
W L L D I L S T E T E E E A E
E E I Q O I I C O M I C S D S
D T U C A M A R E M A C S I Y
I E C H A P N S E I D L O O
S F U R N I T U R E S L O O T

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Last Saturday's Answer: Dumbbells
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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! \$99 per minute, touch-tone/relay phones. (18+ only). A King Features service, NYC.

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Looking for used cars. Year must be 2000 & above. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

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DanDan – American style home
2 storey concrete house-walled/gated,
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Ocean view, 24 hr. water, 322-0268

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24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi &
ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA
applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/
students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH
Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view.
Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up
Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-
time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH
Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view.
Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up
Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-
time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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\$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

WHATZIT Solution: Coat hanger

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO VOLUNTARY
DISSOLVE A CORPORATION**
Notice is hereby given that a Notice of Intent to Dissolve
Snicker-n-Tuna Inc., a corporation which is registered in
Saipan, has been delivered to the Registrar of Corporations.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS



Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010

Closing Date: August 05, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-033	Grants Officer	1	\$35,000 to \$49,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-034	Grants Specialist	1	\$33,000 to \$46,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-035	Engineer	3	\$43,000 To \$60,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-036	Engineer	2	\$33,000 To \$50,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-037	Senior Engineer	2	\$75,000 To \$90,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan

Opening Date: Thursday, July 20, 2010

Closing Date: August 19, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-038	Internal Auditor	1	\$30,000 To \$40,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Chief Financial Officer Divisions, Saipan

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
P.o. Box 501220, Saipan mp 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 • Fax (670) 235-5131



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT


Opening Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010

Closing Date: August 13, 2010

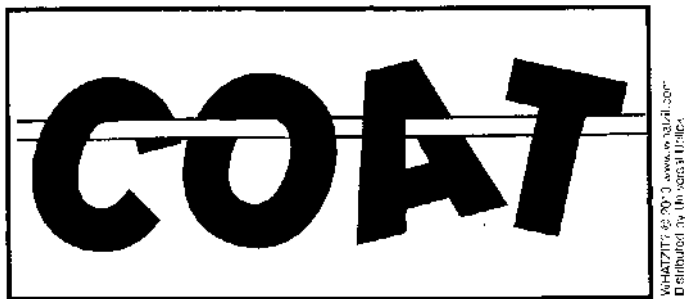
JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-002-1	Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager (DM)	1	\$60,000 to \$75,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-005-2	Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor Saipan) ("OS")	1	\$55,000 to \$ 65,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-029	Wastewater Treatment Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-030	Wastewater Collection Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-031	Water Treatment Level 1 Certified	1	\$30,000 To \$40,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota
10-032	Water Distribution Level 2 Certified	1	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

Ortiz powers Boston past Detroit



BOSTON (AP)—David Ortiz lined a three-run double to the left-center gap with one out in the ninth inning Saturday to give the Boston Red Sox a dramatic, 5-4 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Saturday.

It was the 18th game-ending hit of his career.

Hideki Okajima (4-3) pitched a perfect ninth inning.

Phil Coke (6-2) took the loss after coming in with one on in the ninth.

The Red Sox trailed 2-0 on Miguel Cabrera's 26th homer in the first inning and fell behind 4-0 in the fourth.

Yankees 5, Rays 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Robinson Cano's 21st home run of the season snapped a ninth-inning tie as New York beat Tampa Bay to retain first place in the American League East.

While Alex Rodriguez failed for the ninth consecutive game to hit his 600th career homer, Mark Teixeira and Nick Swisher went deep for the defending world champions, who rallied from an early deficit against Matt Garza before beating All-Star closer Rafael Soriano (2-1) on Cano's drive into the right field seats.

Rodriguez, 9 for 37 with eight RBIs since hitting career homer No. 599 on July 22, went 0 for 3 with a walk and one strikeout.

David Robertson (2-3) pitched a perfect inning for the win. Mariano Rivera worked the ninth for his 22nd save in 24 opportunities, ending Tampa Bay's seven-game winning streak.

Twins 4, Mariners 0

At Minneapolis, Kevin Slowey pitched eight sparkling innings, Joe Mauer had three hits and the Twins won their seventh consecutive game.

Delmon Young added two hits and two RBIs, including a run-scoring triple in Minnesota's three-run first.

Felix Hernandez (7-8) pitched seven innings for the Mariners, yielding three runs and seven hits.

Seattle has lost six straight and its 6-22 record for July matched the franchise record for losses in a month, set by the 1977 expansion team in August.

Slowey (10-5) allowed three hits, tying a season low, and struck out five.

Athletics 6, White Sox 2

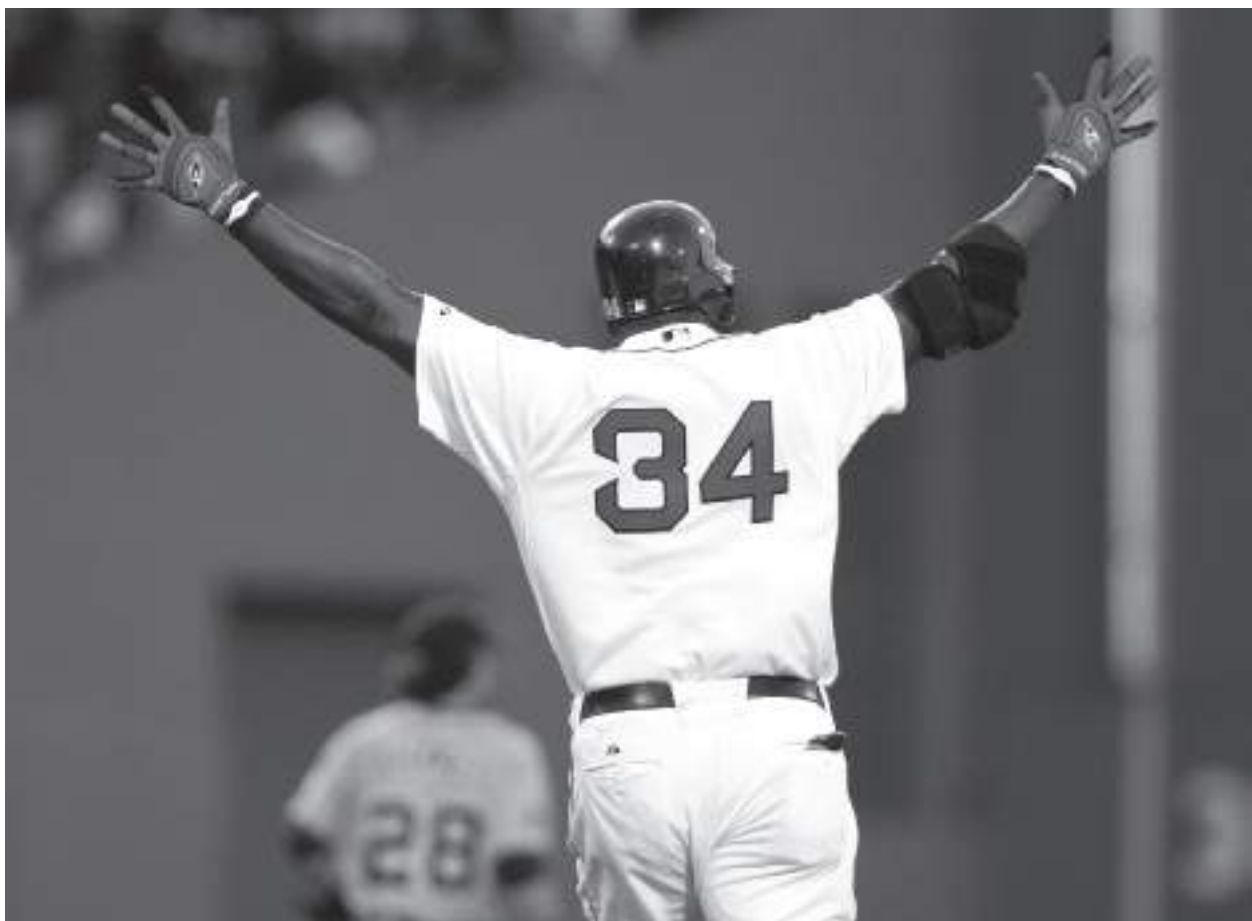
At Chicago, Dallas Braden pitched his third complete game of the season and Kevin Kouzmanoff homered to help Oakland end the White Sox's 12-game, home winning streak.

Braden (6-7), who beat the White Sox on July 25 in Oakland to end his five-game skid and win for the first time since pitching a perfect game May 9, held Chicago to two runs eight hits. He won consecutive starts for the first time since winning three straight from April 11-22.

Andruw Jones homered for the White Sox, who had won five straight overall. Chicago's previous loss at U.S. Cellular Field came on June 27 against the Cubs.

Indians 2, Blue Jays 1

At Toronto, Shin-Soo Choo doubled home the go-ahead run in the seventh inning as Cleveland beat Toronto to snap a three-game losing streak.



Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz celebrates his game winning hit during the bottom of the ninth inning of their 5-4 win over the Detroit Tigers in a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston Saturday, July 31, 2010. AP

Indians right-hander Jake Westbrook was scratched before the game and traded to St. Louis as part of a three-team deal, with Josh Tomlin taking his place. Tomlin was working on three days' rest and allowed only one run in 5 1-3 innings in his second major league start.

Royals 4, Orioles 3

At Kansas City, Missouri, Billy Butler hit a late two-run homer and Zack Greinke pitched eight strong innings as Kansas City rallied past Baltimore for the win.

After Jason Kendall singled in the eighth, Butler sent a drive over the Orioles bullpen in left field for his 12th homer. It came on a 2-2 pitch from David Hernandez (5-8).

Greinke (7-10) held the Orioles to three runs on seven hits. He struck out five and walked three. Greinke, the 2009 American League Cy Young Award winner, is 5-2 in his past seven starts.

Rangers 2, Angels 1

At Anaheim, California, Vladimir Guerrero ended a 16-game home run drought with a two-run shot and Rich Harden

pitched seven solid innings in his first start off the disabled list as the Texas Rangers pushed their lead in the American League West over Los Angeles back to nine games.

Harden (4-3) allowed a run and five hits, struck out three and walked two in his matchup against former Oakland A's teammate Dan Haren (0-2). The Rangers' right-hander had been sidelined since June 11, when he strained his left gluteal muscle.

Rockies 6, Cubs 5

At Denver, Carlos Gonzalez hit a game-ending home run to complete the cycle as Colorado rallied to beat Chicago after blowing a three-run lead in the eighth inning.

Gonzalez became the sixth Rockies player to hit for the cycle and the first since Troy Tulowitzki did it last Aug. 10, also against the Cubs.

Chicago's Derrek Lee hit a tying three-run homer in the eighth off Rafael Betancourt.

Melvin Mora, who went 2 for 2 during Colorado's record-setting 13-hit, 12-run eighth inning Friday night, went 4 for 4 Saturday to stretch the streak to six hits in six at-bats.

Marlins 6, Padres 3

At San Diego, Ricky Nolasco took a two-hitter into the ninth inning and Dan Uggla hit his 144th home run to become Florida's franchise leader as the Florida Marlins beat the National League West-leading San Diego Padres.

The Padres' lead in the division is down to 1 1/2 games over the San Francisco Giants, San Diego's slimmest lead since July 10 when it was one game up on Colorado.

With the Marlins leading 6-1, Nolasco (12-7) was two outs from his second complete game of the season and fifth of his career before giving up a two-run single to Adrian Gonzalez. Leo Nunez finished for his 26th save in 31 chances.

Cardinals 11, Pirates 1

At St. Louis, Albert Pujols hit his 24th homer and finished with three hits as St. Louis routed Pittsburgh.

Jeff Suppan (1-6) allowed five hits in 5 1-3 scoreless innings to get his first win since September. He also struck out five in his first victory since Sept. 19 for Milwaukee.

Colby Rasmus hit a two-run homer and an RBI single for the Cardinals, who are 11-5 since the All-Star break.

It was Rasmus' career-high 17th homer and first since June 27.

Mets 5, Diamondbacks 4

At New York, Jesus Feliciano tripled and scored on Carlos Beltran's sacrifice fly in the ninth inning, lifting the New York Mets past Arizona.

David Wright drove in three runs, including a tying single in the seventh off Arizona newcomer D.J. Carrasco. New York won it against Juan Gutierrez (0-6) to finally beat the last-place Diamondbacks for the first time in five meetings this season.

The Mets got a stellar start from Hisanori Takahashi and won for only the sixth time in 20 games. Francisco Rodriguez (4-2) struck out two in a perfect ninth for the win.

The rebuilding Diamondbacks, who made a flurry of deals leading up to Saturday's non-waiver deadline, have lost eight of nine. Justin Upton had three RBIs for Arizona and extended his hitting streak to a team-high 16 games.

Nationals 7, Phillies 5

At Washington, Ryan Zimmerman hit a three-run homer in the ninth inning to lead Washington past Philadelphia.

Zimmerman's one-out drive onto the grass-covered batters eye in center field came on a fastball from Brad Lidge (1-1). Michael Morse led off the ninth with a single, and Adam Kennedy walked before Zimmerman's drive. It was Zimmerman's 18th homer of the season.

Astros 6, Brewers 0

At Houston, Wandy Rodriguez added another impressive start to his dazzling streak and Houston's young hitters got off to a fast start in a victory over Milwaukee.

On the same day the Astros traded star slugger Lance Berkman to the New York Yankees, Houston's rookie-filled lineup scored five times in the first two innings and led the club to its fourth straight win. It was the fourth consecutive loss for Milwaukee.

Reds 5, Braves 2

At Cincinnati, Ryan Hanigan hit a tie-breaking double during a wacky seventh-inning rally and Cincinnati held on to beat Atlanta.

The Braves lost leadoff hitter Martin Prado to injury but made a trade to upgrade their outfield and bullpen.

Hanigan doubled to the wall in center off Jair Jurrjens (3-4), who has yet to win on the road. Two runs scored while Melky Cabrera chased the ball to the wall. When the outfielder turned and threw quickly, the ball slipped from his hand and rolled across the outfield, allowing the catcher to chug home.

Giants 2, Dodgers 1

At San Francisco, Pat Burrell lined a go-ahead, two-run homer into the left-field seats with two outs in the eighth inning to help San Francisco rally past Los Angeles.

Chad Billingsley extended his scoreless innings streak to 21 2-3 spanning three starts, but the bullpen couldn't hold a one-run lead for short-handed Los Angeles. Casey Blake put the Dodgers ahead with a solo homer in the seventh.

Deadline deals: Westbrook, Lilly, Ludwick dealt

Former All-Stars Jake Westbrook, Ted Lilly, Ryan Ludwick and Kerry Wood were traded Saturday as pennant contenders played a game of beat-the-clock. Lance Berkman went to the World Series champion New York Yankees after rejecting the Chicago White Sox.

Octavio Dotel, Rick Ankiel, Kyle Farnsworth, Chad Qualls and Ryan Theriot also joined the playoff chase and Ryan Church highlighted a five-player deal between last-place teams.

The swaps came as clubs scrambled before the 4 p.m. EDT deadline for making trades without waivers. It was a day full of deals between

haves and have-nots—veterans for prospects, mostly.

The NL Central-leading St. Louis Cardinals were the prime players in a three-team trade, getting Westbrook from Cleveland and sending Ludwick to NL Central-leading San Diego.

"I'm excited to go to a club that's contending for a playoff spot and pitch in some meaningful ballgames," Westbrook said. "That's why you play the game, to get a chance to play in the playoffs and I look forward to doing that." Westbrook was scratched before he was set to start at Toronto. Ludwick leaves a crowded outfield in St. Louis.

The Yankees plucked Wood from Cleveland, shortly after finishing off the deal to get Berkman from Houston. The Astros sent \$4 million and Berkman, the Yankees' new designated hitter, for reliever Mark Melancon and minor league infielder Jimmy Paredes.

"You don't want to play games that don't have anything riding on them. This is a chance to get back into that mode of playing games that are meaningful and that there's an excitement about," Berkman said.

A five-time All-Star, the 34-year-old Berkman was hitting only .245 with 13 home runs and 49 RBIs.

Bosh says he always played hard with Raptors



TORONTO (AP)—After being called out as a quitter by his former general manager, Chris Bosh says he “put his heart and soul” into the Toronto Raptors organization and never gave up on his team.

In an interview on Rogers Sportsnet on Thursday night, Bosh responded to allegations made by Raptors general manager Bryan Colangelo on Toronto radio station FAN 590 that claimed the All-Star was “checked out” late last season and chose not to play some of the Raptors’ final games.

“I play this game as hard as I can every time I step on the court,” Bosh

said. “On the back of my jersey it says ‘Bosh’ ... The Boshes are hard workers. We have a lot of pride in what we do, in our jobs and in life.”

The Raptors fell from a playoff position at the All-Star break into ninth place in the Eastern Conference at the end of the season. Bosh and former Cleveland star LeBron James then joined Dwyane Wade in Miami as free agents this summer.

That ruffled feathers in Toronto and Cleveland, with Colangelo suggesting that the decision for the three stars to play together had been “brewing for a while.” He suggested the threesome started firming up their plans while representing the East at

the NBA All-Star game.

Bosh claims he was still intent on getting the Raptors into the postseason.

“What’s so significant about the All-Star break? We were in the playoffs. And I wanted to play in the playoffs,” he said. “That’s all I thought about every summer.”

Bosh also clarified comments he made recently in the Miami Herald in which he called Toronto “different.” He said he didn’t mean that as an insult to the city.

“Toronto is different,” he said. “For one, it’s a different country. If you don’t know you’re in a different country when you land then something is wrong with your senses. That’s not to

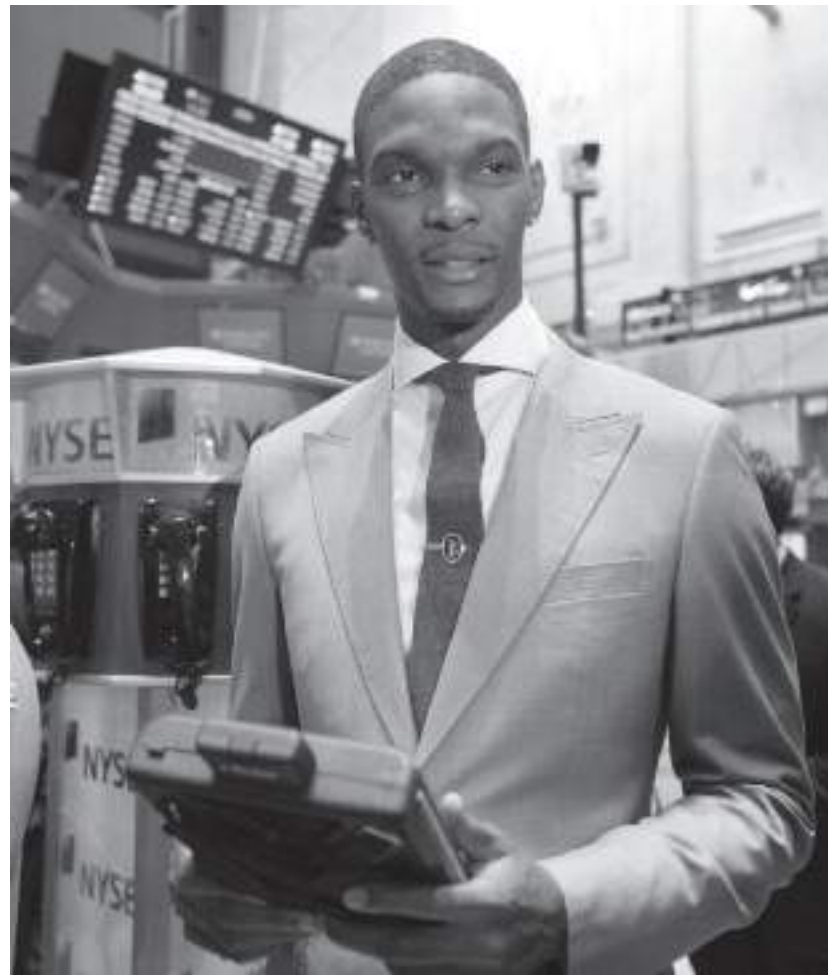
say that Toronto is not a great metropolitan city. It is a fantastic city.

“Different is not bad. I’m different. That doesn’t make me bad.”

Bosh also claimed his decision to leave Toronto was at the end of a long process and not something he had com-

mitted to before the offseason.

“Everybody thinks, ‘Oh, he was gone as soon as the season was over.’ It was the hardest decision I ever had to make. As different as another country is, it was still home for me. I had been there for seven years.”



AP
Miami Heat forward basketball player Chris Bosh poses for photos at a phone post after opening bell ceremonies at the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, July 28, 2010.

Attorney: Wright’s ex-wife got threatening visit

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Lorenzen Wright’s ex-wife was threatened at her home by three men who were carrying guns and looking for the former NBA player about six weeks before he was shot to death, the woman’s attorney said Friday.

Sherra Wright warned her ex-husband, the father of her children, about the visit by men dressed in sport coats with weapons tucked in their waistbands, lawyer Gail Mathes said. But she was

frightened by their threats and didn’t tell authorities about it until Monday, when she alerted police in the Memphis suburb of Collierville, near her home.

“She was told that if she said anything she would be killed, or her children,” Mathes said. “Mrs. Wright was terrified.”

The body of the 34-year-old athlete was found in woods in Memphis on Wednesday, six days after his family reported him missing. He was last

seen around midnight July 18, when he stayed over at his ex-wife’s house.

Sherra Wright told officers he left in the middle of the night with an unidentified person. Police records indicate Wright was probably carrying a large amount of cash when he disappeared.

An investigation is now under way by police in nearby Germantown, another Memphis suburb, about how a 911 call from Wright’s phone early on July 19 was handled.

Nervous Roethlisberger encouraged by fan support



LATROBE, Pa. (AP)—Ben Roethlisberger was so worried that the Pittsburgh Steelers fans who once embraced him would boo him, he couldn’t recall being so nervous and apprehensive before a football practice.

What Roethlisberger didn’t expect was this: Waves of cheering supporters wearing his No. 7 jersey and knocking over temporary security fences to get the autograph of a player whose vulgar off-field behavior led the NFL to suspend him for six games.

Roethlisberger, so disliked in Pittsburgh a few months ago that he wondered if he’d ever regain a sliver of his previous support, was greeted warmly by an enthusiastic crowd estimated at 10,000 on Saturday at Saint Vincent College. He heard few, if any jeers, and many fans appeared to go out of their way to embrace him.

There were cheers when Roethlisberger and wide receiver Hines Ward arrived on the practice field together, and more when the quarterback found Antwaan Randle El on a pass route.

Pumped up by the response, Roethlisberger couldn’t recall throwing a single incompletion during a nearly two-hour practice.

“I was nervous, scared, anxious, a lot of emotions,” Roethlisberger said.

Once practice ended, fans clamoring to get his signature knocked down a mesh plastic security fence near the Chuck Noll Field grandstands.

Roethlisberger, noticing one youngster getting shoved aside, took off one of his practice shoes, signed it and gave it to 8-year-old Micah Delattre of Houtzdale, Pa.

“Everyone was pushing me and I was crying and he just gave it to me,” Delattre said.

A few minutes later, Roethlisberger took off his other shoe, signed it and gave it away, too, as he scribbled his

name countless times for a half-hour.

Whether it was a calculated public relations move or random act of kindness, it was one of the first signs that Roethlisberger is trying to repair his badly damaged image.

While the Steelers fans troubled by the accusations he sexually assaulted a Georgia college student during a night of bar hopping in March no doubt skipped the practice, Roethlisberger and his teammates still weren’t anticipating such a forgiving crowd.

“A lot of my teammates came to me and said regardless of what comments they hear, not knowing what’s going to happen, that don’t worry, we’ve got your back,” Roethlisberger said. “So that’s special.”

Roethlisberger was more outgoing and animated than usual during both of the practices, only one of which was open to the public. Drawing such a steep suspension—a punishment that could be trimmed to four games by commissioner Roger Goodell—apparently convinced him that changes were needed, some teammates suggested.

Roethlisberger expects to talk to Goodell when the commissioner visits camp on Thursday, though it’s likely any reduction of the suspension won’t occur until the preseason ends.

“For many years, people didn’t know what was really going on with Ben,” Ward said. “He’s starting to open up and be more personal with guys. Today he was talking to everybody. I really think he understands the situation. I think you could really see the excitement in him, competing and playing football again. ... He’s working on trying to improve himself.”

This is the third time in five years that Roethlisberger’s off-field behavior has caused major problems for the Steelers.

They missed the playoffs following a Super Bowl victory after Roethlis-

berger was badly injured during a motorcycle crash in 2006. Last season, a former Nevada hotel employee filed a civil suit accusing him of assaulting her. That case remains unresolved.

While Roethlisberger will practice less than usual because fill-in starter Byron Leftwich also needs time with the regulars, the two split time Saturday. Roethlisberger ran the opening series, by design.

“He’s our quarterback and everybody else is fighting for a job,” offensive coordinator Bruce Arians said. “We’ll switch it every day cause he’s got to get with the young receivers and the other guys have to get with the veteran receivers.”

Roethlisberger can’t be with the team during his suspension, so the only practice time he will get until October will occur during camp.

“Coach Tomlin did a great job of putting Byron and him both with the first group,” Ward said. “It’s still training camp for Ben and he has to go out there and get his rapport.”

Roethlisberger knows the reception he gets won’t be anything like this on the road—or even at home, when not every Steelers fan will be a Roethlisberger fan. But he said repeatedly he’s trying to move on, get back to football, and he hopes the fans eventually will, too.

Some, it appears, already have.

“I was happy just being right here at the field with him,” said 25-year-old Matt Wellen of Williamsport, Pa., who drove nearly four hours each way to watch in a Roethlisberger jersey.

Wellen admittedly tries to see the good in athletes who have angered their fans. Besides his Roethlisberger jersey, he wore a Tiger Woods hat. All that was missing, he said, were his LeBron James shoes.

“I was thinking about wearing them, but I thought it was a little too soon,” Wellen said.

Overton has 3-shot lead at Greenbrier Classic



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W.Va. (AP)—

Jeff Overton overcame a tough start to shoot 4-under 66 Saturday for a three-stroke lead entering the final round of the inaugural Greenbrier Classic.

Overton made five birdies on the back nine of the Old White course to move to 18 under.

The second-round leader kept the lead despite a pair of others flirting with 59. D.A. Points three-putted the par-5 17th for bogey, finished with a 61 and is alone in second at 15 under, and J.B. Holmes couldn’t convert a 10-footer for eagle at No. 17 and shot 60.

Boo Weekley shot a 67 to reach 13 under, and Holmes is in a four-way tie for fourth with Jonathan Byrd (64), Brendon de Jonge (65) and Jimmy Walker (67) at 12 under for the tournament.

Holmes was among 17 players who made the 36-hole cut on the number. He looks to repeat the performance of Carl Pettersson, who a week ago also made the cut on the number at the Canadian Open, shot 60 in the third round and eventually won by a stroke.

Double heart transplant recipient Erik Compton, seeking his first top-10 PGA Tour finish, is among three players at 11 under.

Overton didn’t come close to matching the 62 he shot Friday, his best round of the year.

He started the day with a four-shot

lead over Weekley but bogeyed Nos. 2 and 5. By then, Points had taken over with a stretch of nine birdies over his first 13 holes.

Despite difficulty finding greens in his round, Overton answered with five birdies down the stretch, including short putts at Nos. 16 and 17.

Overton, a former Big Ten player of the year at Indiana who joined the PGA Tour in 2006, is having his best season with four top-five finishes. He’s 12th in FedEx Cup points and could jump to No. 2 with a victory.

Points, also seeking his first win after joining the Tour a year ago, admits thinking about a 59 after holing an 11-foot putt at No. 16. But those thoughts were short lived.

His second shot on No. 17 found a greenside bunker, where he had an awkward stance and blasted out to 28 feet. His birdie attempt was well short and his 4-footer for par slid past.

Points still had a chance to become the fifth player to shoot 59 on Tour with a hole-in-one at the 148-yard 18th, a rare par-3 finishing hole. His tee shot safely found the middle of the green and he made par.

Holmes, who had 11 birdies and a bogey, went driver-9 iron on No. 17 but watched an 11-foot eagle putt slide to the left. He birdied the par-3 18th for his 60.

Because 85 players qualified for Saturday’s play, there will be a 54-hole cut to the low 70 and ties, a policy the PGA Tour implemented two years ago to avoid two-tee starts and long weekend rounds.

MICRO

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nesian will fulfill his or her dream of being the best in the world. That day is inevitable and the dream is yours,” Kyota added.

Before Kyota’s remarks, the opening ceremony started with the introduction and the traditional parade of teams.

Having been the host of the previous Micro Games, the CNMI took center stage first during the traditional parade of nations.

Sprinter and baseball player Tyrone Omar led Team Marianas, as he waved the CNMI flag during the parade.

Also leading Team Marianas was Chef de Mission and Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Mike White, who urged CNMI athletes to do their best from the start to the last day of the biggest sporting event in the region. Team Marianas wore a light blue T-

shirt and cream shorts during the parade of teams.

The first team from the CNMI to round the oval and wave to about 2,000 spectators was the Commonwealth’s athletics squad, followed by women’s basketball, men’s basketball, swimming, table tennis, lawn tennis, and baseball.

After the CNMI, Chuuk had its turn during the parade of nations, followed by Guam, Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, Pohnpei, Yap, and host Palau. Guam’s flag bearer was wrestler Maria Dunn; wrestler Kun Aliksa Killin for Kosrae; Waylon Muller for the Marshalls; Eugene Alfons for Pohnpei; Anthony Sigeyog of Yap, and Rodman Tutull of Palau.

The succeeding parts of the opening ceremony program included the introduction of dignitaries, the welcoming and key remarks from Kyota and Palau President Johnson Toribiong, respectively, and the raising of the Micronesian Games flag. CNMI Gov. Be-

nigno R. Fitial was among the dignitaries present at the opening rites and was joined by other top-ranking government officials from the participating island-nations.

The much-awaited torch relay and lighting of the Games torch came in next with seven Palauan athletes from different generations, including Toribiong, who participated in the inaugural Micro Games in 1969, rounding the oval.

Palauan Olympian and wrestler Elgin Loren Elwais lit the torch to signal the opening of the Micro Games, while Toribiong declared this year’s event open.

Entertainment during and after the opening ceremony were provided by Ngarachamayong Dance Group, the all-male Ngardmau Dance Group, and a local band, who sang the Games’ theme song entitled “See me rise.”

Weather cooperated during the anticipated opening rites that started around 5pm and lasted for more than an hour.

CNMI

From Page 28

and Kana Aikawa downing separate foes in the singles.

Arriola prevailed over Akiko Udui, 6-2, 6-1, while Aikawa topped Abigail Gbewonyo, 6-3, 6-0.

Arriola and Aikawa both admitted feeling nervous going into their first game.

“I had to get those nerves out and the moment I felt comfortable in my game I just focused on hitting those balls,” said Aikawa, who struggled in the first few games in the opening set before blowing away Gbewonyo in the second set.

“I haven’t been playing competitive tennis in the past two years so it was pretty hard. I am glad to be back to defend the gold medal. It will be hard to win the gold, again but I am happy that Mayuko is playing great tennis, as it lifts the pressure from my shoulders a bit,” Aikawa added.

Arriola was relieved to get

her first game done.

“I couldn’t sleep well last night, as I was thinking of the game today [yesterday]. At the start, it was difficult to toss the ball, my hands were shaking, as I was nervous. After the first set and I won, I started feeling confident,” Arriola said.

Jodel Fernandez and Lydia Tan played in the third game in the team event yesterday and lost their doubles match to Udui and Uriik Luii, 2-6, 0-6.

The CNMI men’s team, which is seeded first in the tournament, drew a bye yesterday and will play the winner of the Kosrae-Palau game. Guam also drew a bye in the first round and will meet the victor of the Marshall Islands-Pohnpei duel.

The CNMI men’s team—composed of Jeff Race, Todd Montgomery, Peter Loyola, and Bobby Cruz—watched their teammates played yesterday. Also spotted at the PPR courts were CNMI chef de mission Michael White and members of the table tennis team.

“It was a good start for Team Marianas,” White said.

CNMI teams schedule of games/events

With the opening ceremony scheduled yesterday, most of

the events in this year’s Micro Games will start their competition today.

In basketball at the Palau National Gymnasium, the CNMI will play Pohnpei in the men’s division at 3pm, while the Commonwealth will take on Palau in the women’s division at 5pm (see related stories).

In swimming, the men’s and women’s squads will each have five events in the opening day and will compete in the preliminary races in the morning. The medal races will be held starting at 5pm.

In baseball, the CNMI will play Pohnpei first at 9am and then Kosrae at 3pm.

Tomorrow, the CNMI will compete in the 10,000m races at 6am at the Palau National Track and Field Stadium, while the Commonwealth’s ping-pong players will see action at the Ngarachamayong Cultural Center at 9am for the men’s team event.

The CNMI bets in canoe, triathlon, and spearfishing will begin their bids for medals later this week. Outrigger canoe racing at the Meyuns Sea Ramp will run from Aug. 5 to 7, triathlon is set for Aug. 8 here at PPR, while spearfishing is slated for Aug. 7 and 8 at the Drop Off Bar & Grill in Malakal.

TOC

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as he shot a 1-under par 71. He then survived a rocky start in Day 2 yesterday to finish with a 1-over 73 for a four-stroke win against a tough field in the Championship Flight.

Lee shot a 37 in the front nine yesterday with bogeys in holes No. 1, 7, and 9 negating his birdies in holes No. 2 and 5.

He was steady in the back nine though, as the 32-year-old made up for a bogey in the five-stroke hole No. 14 with a birdie on the 18th and last hole.

“I’ve been enjoying my stay on Saipan...it’s really is a beautiful place. As far as the tournament, I felt really good on the first day, but the second day was very rocky at times. Because of the rain I had to make sure to keep ball in the fairway off the tee and fortunately I putted well on Sunday to hold on for the win,” he said.

For his feat, Lee received a handsome championship trophy along with \$600 and a bottle of Johnny Walker Gold Label.

Lee beat Jin Woo Park and local driving range instructor Bae Young Man for the cham-

pionship after the two registered two-day totals of 148 and 149, respectively.

The two were tied after first round with identical 75s going into the last day, before Park edged out Bae by a stroke, 73-74, in the second round to steal runner-up honors.

Local golfer Keina D. Kim, meanwhile, finished well ahead of the field in the Ladies Low Gross competition. Kim scored a 76 on Day 1 followed by an impressive 73 in the rain-soaked second day to take first place by six strokes.

CNMI Women’s Golfers Association’s Noriko Togawa won second place after marking a consistent 78 on the first day and a 77 on the final day for a total of 155. Ten strokes behind her was Jung Yoom Kim who tallied an 83 on the first day and an 82 in the second for a 165 total.

In the A Flight, Xian Lai Cui marked a 79 on Day 1, but bounced back on Sunday with a 75 to total a 154 series for the first place trophy.

Nathan Zhao jumped ahead with an impressive 73 on Day 1, but struggled in the rain on Sunday with an 83 and finished two strokes behind Cui

at 156. Refaluwasch Golf Association’s Tars Olopai played consistent in varied conditions to round out the third spot with a 160 (79-81).

After both finishing with 160s on Sunday, Young Woo Lee won the scorecard tiebreak over Prescil D. Azarcon for first place honors in the B Flight. With a 79 after the first round, Lee trailed Azarcon by two strokes going into Sunday’s final round.

Eun Sam Cui tallied an 84 on the first day, but finished strong with a 79 to total 163 and a four-stroke win in C Flight. Danny Quitugua shot a consistent 83 and 84 for a 167 second place total and Takashi Nakata finished with an 84 and 88 to finish with a third best 172.

In the Senior Flight, NMASA Hall of Famer Tony Satur won by three strokes with an impressive 75 in the first round and a 78 in the second to total 153. Former Superior Court presiding judge Edward Manibusan and Vic Borja were tied at 156 after Sunday’s final round, but Manibusan eventually edged Borja via scorecard tiebreak and was awarded second place.

In a tight Super Seniors Flight clash, Duke Yoo marked an 82

followed by an 80 for a 162 total and first place. A stroke behind came Bill Garris with an 82 on Day 1 and an 81 in the final round. Jesus M. Taitano also scored an 82 opener, but struggled in the rain to finish with an 85 to total with a third-best score of 167.

In addition, Korea’s Young Hee Yoo won the Low Net Score in the Ladies flight with a score of 145.8. I Sun Park placed second with a 146, and CWGA’s Sheryl P. Jones came close behind in third with a 146.4.

Aside from the Ladies Low Net category, all first place winners won a cash prize of \$600, second place finishers won \$500, and third placers took home \$400 along with trophies and a bottle of Johnny Walker. Fourth place finishers won digital cameras and fifth place finishers won \$100 gifts certificates courtesy of DFS Galleria Saipan.

Various other prizes were also awarded during the TOC raffle drawing such as television sets, cell phones, golf bags, umbrellas, a generator, tool center, various hotel stays and gift certificates, coolers, i-Pods, netbooks, a Blu-ray player, a painting, and more. In addition, a “Ball Drop” raffle also took place.

FAISAO

From Page 28

ao lost 100 lbs in preparation for the bout.

At 300 lbs Sablan was the bigger of the two super heavyweights, but he also grew tired much faster and since Faisao prevented the giant to sit simply on top of him, he was able to force the big man to repeatedly stand himself back up. When Sablan would rise to his feet Faisao—being two steps faster—knew he could attack at will.

After a rowdy first round, Faisao sensed the victory and

began to let his fists go early in the second. Sablan had an opportunity early in the first to pin his man down and dish out some punishment, but Faisao got away and stuck to his stand-up strategy where he had more of an advantage.

Sablan was tired after Round 1 and started to let his mouthpiece hang out of his mouth until Faisao clocked him in the teeth and sent it flying. Soon after, D’Angelo stopped the fight because Faisao was raining so many uncontested bombs.

No escape for Palaxi
In an even bigger upset just a

fight earlier, Saipan’s Giovanni “Palaxi” Sablan lost to Guam’s Matt “The Hitman” Manibusan in ROP 9’s main event after tapping out at just 3:13 into the first round due to a deep guillotine choke sunk in by Manibusan.

After the surprise ending in front of the hometown crowd, Manibusan improved his win-loss record to 3-4, while Palaxi fell to a still solid 16-6 mark.

Being so experienced and coming off a recent knockout win during the last Trench Warz event, Sablan has been a local celebrity on island. Three years ago Sablan came out on top of the match up with an

arm bar, so this time around the fans present at ROP 9 were stunned to see the slippery Sablan actually concede victory.

Now that the fighters are even, perhaps a tiebreaking third match will one day be set in the books, but those issues are still pending.

Even though the fight ended in the first round, it was still three very exciting minutes of action. Both fighters came at each other immediately and the fight really looked even until the sudden ending.

The results of the other 13 bouts in ROP 9 will be published in succeeding issues of the *Saipan Tribune*.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES		
MLB STANDINGS		
AMERICAN LEAGUE		
East Division		
	W	L Pct GB
New York	66	37 .641 —
Tampa Bay	64	39 .621 2
Boston	59	45 .567 7 1/2
Toronto	54	50 .519 12 1/2
Baltimore	32	72 .308 34 1/2
Central Division		
Chicago	58	45 .563 —
Minnesota	58	46 .558 1/2
Detroit	52	51 .505 6
Kansas City	44	60 .423 14 1/2
Cleveland	43	61 .413 15 1/2
West Division		
Texas	61	43 .587 —
Oakland	52	51 .505 8 1/2
Los Angeles	53	53 .500 9
Seattle	39	66 .371 22 1/2
NATIONAL LEAGUE		
East Division		
Atlanta	59	44 .573 —
Philadelphia	56	48 .538 3 1/2
Florida	53	51 .510 6 1/2
New York	53	51 .510 6 1/2
Washington	46	58 .442 13 1/2
Central Division		
St. Louis	58	46 .558 —
Cincinnati	58	47 .552 1/2
Milwaukee	48	57 .457 10 1/2
Chicago	46	58 .442 12
Houston	44	59 .427 13 1/2
Pittsburgh	36	67 .350 21 1/2
West Division		
San Diego	60	42 .588 —
San Francisco	60	45 .571 1 1/2
Colorado	54	50 .519 7
Los Angeles	54	50 .519 7
Arizona	38	66 .365 23
Yesterday's Games		
Cincinnati 5, Atlanta 2		
San Francisco 2, L.A. Dodgers 1		
Houston 6, Milwaukee 0		
Washington 7, Philadelphia 5		
N.Y. Mets 5, Arizona 4		
St. Louis 11, Pittsburgh 1		
Colorado 6, Chicago Cubs 5		
Florida 6, San Diego 3		
Cleveland 2, Toronto 1		
Boston 5, Detroit 4		
Oakland 6, Chicago White Sox 2		
Kansas City 4, Baltimore 3		
N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 4		
Minnesota 4, Seattle 0		
Texas 2, L.A. Angels 1		
THE GREENBRIER CLASSIC SCORES		
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, West Virginia (AP)—Scores Saturday from the Greenbrier Classic, a \$6 million US PGA Tour event at the par-70, 7,031-yard Old White Course (a-amateur):		
THIRD ROUND		
Jeff Overton	64-62-66—192	
D.A. Points	68-66-61—195	
Boo Weekley	67-63-67—197	
J.B. Holmes	69-69-60—198	
Jonathan Byrd	69-65-64—198	
Brendon de Jonge	65-68-65—198	
Jimmy Walker	67-64-67—198	
Stuart Appleby	66-68-65—199	
Charles Howell III	65-67-67—199	
Erik Compton	63-68-68—199	
Justin Leonard	67-68-65—200	
Roger Tambellini	69-66-65—200	
Bob Estes	66-68-66—200	
Spencer Levin	66-67-67—200	
Jim Furyk	68-65-67—200	
Scott Piercy	66-67-67—200	
Briny Baird	67-65-68—200	
Derek Lamely	69-69-63—201	
Matt Kuchar	69-69-63—201	
Rocco Mediate	70-68-63—201	
Aron Price	65-71-65—201	
Marc Leishman	68-68-65—201	
Brandt Snedeker	68-68-65—201	
Kevin Na	70-66-65—201	
Tim Herron	69-66-66—201	
Skip Kendall	67-68-66—201	
Brett Wetterich	67-68-66—201	
Troy Matteson	69-65-67—201	
Paul Stankowski	69-65-67—201	
John Rollins	65-69-67—201	
Matt Bettencourt	65-69-67—201	
Chris Couch	66-67-68—201	
Scott McCarron	67-66-68—201	
Chris Stroud	69-63-69—201	
Aaron Baddeley	67-65-69—201	
Brenden Pappas	71-67-64—202	
Nicholas Thompson	70-68-64—202	
J.J. Henry	69-69-64—202	
Dean Wilson	66-70-66—202	
Mathew Goggin	66-70-66—202	
Stephen Ames	68-67-67—202	
Woody Austin	67-68-67—202	
Sergio Garcia	68-67-67—202	
Pat Perez	64-69-69—202	
Ben Crane	66-67-69—202	
Richard S. Johnson	66-67-69—202	
Roland Thatcher	71-67-65—203	
Joe Durant	70-68-65—203	
Chris Riley	68-69-66—203	
Charles Warren	69-68-66—203	
Cameron Percy	69-68-66—203	
Michael Letzig	72-65-66—203	
Graham DeLaet	70-67-66—203	
Arjun Atwal	68-68-67—203	
Michael Bradley	69-67-67—203	
Chad Collins	66-69-68—203	
Ben Curtis	69-66-68—203	
John Senden	68-67-68—203	
Steve Flesch	68-67-68—203	
Davis Love III	68-66-69—203	
Garrett Willis	71-67-66—204	
Jay Williamson	66-71-67—204	
Greg Chalmers	68-69-67—204	
John Daly	69-68-67—204	
Jeev Milkha Singh	67-69-68—204	
Charlie Wi	69-67-68—204	
Carl Pettersson	71-64-69—204	
Tom Gillis	72-63-69—204	
Blake Adams	71-67-67—205	
Jeff Quinney	66-72-67—205	
Jerod Turner	69-69-67—205	
Craig Bowden	68-70-67—205	
Brent Delahoussaye	68-69-68—205	
Joe Ogilvie	68-69-68—205	
Kevin Sutherland	67-69-69—205	
Chris DiMarco	70-66-69—205	
Matt Every	63-72-70—205	
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS		

CNMI athletics, baseball teams scouted

BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



"Tia de Preñil" KOROR, Palau—Since arriving here last week for the 7th Micronesian Games, the CNMI athletics and baseball teams have been

drawing watchful eyes from their respective foes.

"They are after us. We're being watched and it adds pressure to the athletes and I hope they will get over it and focus on their events," CNMI athletics team coach Elias Rangamar said.

The CNMI tracksters are favored in the athletics competition after ruling the Micronesian Ath-

letics Championships in Australia last year and taking home several medals in Guam during a pre-Micro Games tournament.

Though favored, Rangamar said they still need to pay attention on some Chuuk and Palau athletes and also the newcomers from Guam.

"Chuuk still has the Howard brothers in the sprints and Palau and Guam both have up-and-coming athletes," said Rangamar.

Athletics competition will start tomorrow and will run until Aug. 6.

The CNMI will have its first crack at the medals at stake in the athletics competition tomorrow via the women's and men's 10,000m races.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger will be the CNMI's bet in the women's 10,000m run, while Jack "Ketson" Kabiriel and Ronald Villafria are entered in the 10,000m race.

A day before the CNMI's tracksters debut in the Micro Games, the Commonwealth's sluggers will start their title defense bid.

The CNMI baseball team will play Pohnpei at 9am today and then face Kosrae at 3pm on the same day.

"It will be tough to play back-to-back games, but back home we already told the boys to expect the unexpected in Palau, especially playing successive games," team manager Tony Rogolifoi.

"They were also told to be ready for the tough conditions



Trevor Ogumoro practices at the Palau National Track and Field last Saturday.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

of the field, rain or shine. In the last two days, we practiced in a soggy field [Asahi Ball Field] because it rained. During our training sessions, scouts from various teams were at the field, checking on us. They are after us because we are the defending gold medallist," added Rogolifoi,

who stayed at the field after their practice last Saturday to watch Guam's training, too.

The CNMI defeated Guam in 2006, 3-2, and the former will have its early rematch against the latter tomorrow at 3pm.

"So far so good, our defense is doing well and our pitchers are great. We just have to dou-

ble our efforts on batting and we will be in a good standing to advance to the medal round," Rogolifoi said.

Only six island-nations are competing in the baseball event, which will have a round-robin format in the elimination with the Top 4 teams advancing to the semis.

Pressured opening game for cage belles

BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KOROR, Palau—The CNMI Women's Nationals' first game in the basketball competition of the 7th Micronesian Games today is no ordinary match.

It will be an early rematch of the teams that played in women's basketball finals of the 2006 Micronesian Games with the defending champion CNMI facing home squad Palau.

The CNMI-Palau tiff, which is expected to draw a jam-packed crowd at the Palau National Gymnasium, will be played at 5pm (6pm Saipan time).

"Though it has been four years now since we beat Palau in the finals, I knew the memory of that loss is still fresh on their minds and they are looking to avenge that defeat," said CNMI team captain Connie Camacho, who scored 14 points in the Commonwealth's 48-34 rout of Palau in their gold medal game in 2006.

With vengeance in mind and the crowd on their side, the Palauan cage belles will be one of the stumbling blocks in the CNMI's bid for back-to-back gold medals in the women's basketball competition.

"It will be very tough playing Palau in our first game. They have the crowd and this is their home court. I like playing under pressure and I just hope my young teammates will also withstand this tough test. We have to play it cool and we should not panic," Camacho said.

Yvonne Bennett agreed with Camacho, saying they should play their game and not let the crowd distract them.

Coach Bill Sewell said the key will be to survive the opening quarter.

"If we can handle them in the first quarter and the match is still close after that, it will be anybody's ball game," said Sewell.

"I haven't seen Palau play, but from what I heard, they've been training since October and brought a coach from Australia. They have three to four well-experienced players, so we expect them to go all out in their first game to show other teams what they have on their sleeves," Sewell added.

Meanwhile, Guam and the

Marshall Islands will play in the first game in the women's division at 11am.

Basketball competition will run from Aug. 2 to 10 with each team playing in a round-robin elimination with the Top 4 advancing to the single-elimination playoffs.

Men's Nationals versus Pohnpei

The CNMI Men's Nationals will also play in the opening day of the basketball competition, facing Pohnpei in the third match of the day at 3pm.

The Nationals did not meet Pohnpei in the 2006 Micro Games, as the latter was in Group 2 of pool play four years ago. Pohnpei won only once in 2006, beating Yap, while the CNMI finished with a 2-1 record in Group 1, but ended up in fifth place overall after failing to advance to the semis.

The Men's Nationals were among the first teams to arrive in Palau, making it to the host island-nation last Tuesday. They practiced twice at the venue, but held a few more trainings outside to avoid being scouted by opponents.

Besides the CNMI-Pohnpei tiff, two other men's games are scheduled today with Guam facing Chuuk and the Marshall Islands battling Palau.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Connie Camacho practices her free throw shooting during the CNMI Women's Nationals training session at the Palau National Stadium in Koror last Saturday.

Wong eyes first medal in swimming

BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MEYUNS, Palau—The task of giving the CNMI its first medal in the swimming competition in the 7th Micronesian Games falls heavily on the shoulders of Rezne Wong.

Wong will be competing in the 200m individual medley, which is one of the five races scheduled in the first day of the competition today. Other men's events are the 100m backstroke, 200m freestyle, 100m butterfly, and 200m breaststroke.

Preliminary races will begin at 9am at the Palau National Swimming Pool here, while final swims will start at 5pm.

CNMI men's swimming coach Hiro Kimura said Wong is favored to win the first event of the day.

"He will definitely medal in the 200m IM and I am confident it will be gold, again," Kimura said.

Wong took the gold medal in the 200m IM in the 2006 Micronesian Games on Saipan, timing in at 2:25.43 and beating Guam's Tasi Limtiaco (2:26.23) and Ken Barcinas (2:27.23).

When he competed in the 200m IM this year, Wong will be aiming only for medals, not



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Rezne Wong practices his breaststroke during a training session at the Palau National Swimming Pool in Meyuns.

for record time, as the swimming competition here is being held in a short course—a 25-meter pool.

The CNMI does not keep track of records in short court meets—only in the long course ones or those tournaments in 50-m pool, like the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi on Saipan.

Wong and teammates Kai Staal, Kensuke and Shin Kimura, Junior Pamaran, and Michael Moran practiced at the 50m pool in Marpi, but coach Hiro Kimura said the boys had no problems switching to a shorter pool.

"There's nothing to worry about. The boys did well in our practices here since we arrived on Thursday. They are in good spirits and have already seen some of their foes," the older Kimura said.

Hiro Kimura added it was good they arrived here to get used to the pool. The Marshall Islands, which is expected to give the CNMI a tough time with the absence of Guam swimmers, arrived only last Saturday.

Kimura also said the short course favors Staal, who holds several CNMI records in sprint

races. He had been to a tournament in Japan, which was played in the 25m pool.

"I expect Kai to do well in this tournament," Hiro Kimura said.

Women's assistant coach Tamiko Winkfield agreed with the men's mentor on the Commonwealth swimmers' ability to adjust to the condition of the pool quickly.

"They (girls) love the pool. When we practiced for the first time, they were even surprised that they finished the lap fast. This pool pushes them faster," said Winkfield, who is likely to swim, too in a couple of relay races.

Winkfield, who is helping out coach Mike Villagomez in handling the women's squad, will be teaming up with Grace Kimball, Victoria Chentsova, and Kianna Villagomez.

The women's squad are also scheduled to compete in five events today—200m IM, 100m backstroke, 200m freestyle, 100m butterfly, and 200m breaststroke.

The swimming competition in this pool will run until Aug. 4, while the open water swim will be held on Aug. 5 with the venue yet to be announced.

Ortiz powers
Boston past
Detroit

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Bosh says
he always
played hard
with Raptors

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Micro Games: Living the dream

CNMI women netters advance to medal game



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mayuko Arriola serves during a singles game against Palau's Akiko Udui at the start of the women's tennis team event in the 7th Micronesian Games yesterday at the Palau Pacific Resort in Koror.

BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KOROR, Palau—The CNMI is a win away from clinching a gold medal in the women's team tennis event of the 7th Micronesian Games after getting off to a strong start yesterday.

The CNMI netters beat host Palau, 2-1 at the Palau Pacific Resort Tennis Court here to advance to the gold medal match against Guam. Guam was paired against Pohnpei and the former won the two singles games to arrange a duel between the Top 2 teams in the competition. Results of the Guam-Pohnpei doubles match were unavailable at press time.

The CNMI had the finals seat in the bag after only two games with Mayuko Arriola

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RELATED NEWS

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- Wong eyes first medal in swimming
- Pressured opening game for cage belles

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Team Marianas led by CNMI flag bearer Tyrone Omar took center stage first in the parade of teams during the opening ceremony for the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau yesterday afternoon at the Palau National Track and Field oval in Koror. Inset, Palauan Olympian and wrestler Elgin Loren Elwais lights the torch to signal the opening of the quadrennial event.

BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KOROR, Palau—The 7th Micronesian Games kicked off yesterday at the

Palau National Track and Field, keeping the region's dream of one day producing a Micronesian athlete who will be one of the world's best.

"In these Games and competition, we should be grateful that

by the virtue of our collective effort, we were able to join the community of sporting nations and now we enjoy the equal opportunities to compete with the best at the elite level," Micronesian Games Organizing Com-

mittee chairman Frank Kyota said during his welcoming remarks to around 1,200 athletes and officials.

"I affirm my faith in you, athletes, and that one day a Micro-

See MICRO on Page 26

Korean wins Championship Flight

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

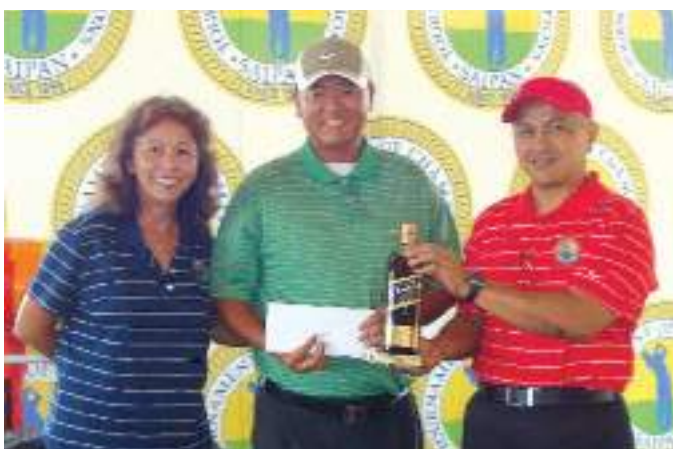
A former junior champion golfer from South Korea braved the rain and the less than ideal conditions at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort over the weekend to win the Championship Flight of the 15th Annual Tournament of

Champions

Geon Ju Lee of Korea ruled the Commonwealth's biggest golf competition of the year following an even par 144 performance in the 36-hole event.

The TOC first-timer was on top of the leaderboard after Day 1 last Saturday

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WALTER SUTHERLAND

Geon Ju Lee of Korea won the Championship Flight of the 15th Annual Tournament of Champions held at the Laolao Bay Resort over the weekend. He is seen here being presented his cash prize and a bottle of Johnny Walker Gold Label by TOC tournament director Ben Babauta, left, and DFS Saipan president Marian Aldan-Pierce.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Referee Tony D'Angelo raises the left hand of Franklin Faisao after the Team Zalaka fighter defeated Trench Tech's Ton "ButDosa" Sablan in their super heavyweight match in Rites of Passage IX: Indestructible last Friday at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

Faisao beats up Sablan; Palaxi loses

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Team Zalaka's Franklin Faisao defeated Trench Tech's Ton "ButDosa" Sablan in their much-anticipated heavy-weight match in Rites of Passage IX: Indestructible held Friday night at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Although it was not the main event, the Faisao-Sablan bout

was the highlight of the night, especially in the raucous first round before Sablan lost steam at the end, forcing referee Tony D'Angelo to call the fight due to strikes at the one-minute mark of Round 2.

Sablan was previously undefeated with two wins before being pummeled by the faster Faisao who looked pretty comfortable in the cage for a first-timer. Fais-

See FAISAO on Page 26

IT&E Life in Motion				
7 th Micro Games MEDAL TALLY				
Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
CNMI	0	0	0	0
Chuuk	0	0	0	0
Guam	0	0	0	0
Kosrae	0	0	0	0
Marshall's	0	0	0	0
Palau	0	0	0	0
Pohnpei	0	0	0	0
Yap	0	0	0	0

IT&E supports our local athletes!